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A Claim of Mass Executions in Iraq

Prison-Cleansing' Was Ordered by Saddam's Son, UN Report Says

By Barbara Crossette New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York -The government of President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has executed at least 1,500 people in the last year mostly for political reasons, a former Dutch foreign minister concluded in a report Tuesday to the UN Human Rights Com-

Most of the deaths occurred during a "prison-cleansing campaign" in November and December ordered by Mr. Saddam's younger son, Qusay. He directs Iraq's special security organization, one of a number of armed intelligence agencies that sustain an atmosphere of terror in Iraq, diplomats based there say.

The report says that after Qusay Hussin's visit to one prison, Abu Gharib,

more were shot, hanged or electrocuted there and in other prisons. The families of those shot were forced to pay for the bullets used before they could claim the

The report was prepared by Max van der Stoel, a former foreign minister of the Netherlands, for the Human Rights Commission. It is in line with charges that Iraqi exiles have been leveling against Mr. Saddam's administration in recent months.

[On Tuesday, Iraq rejected the report's findings as being "in harmony with the hostile campaign led by the United States of America and Britain," Reuters reported from Geneva. "Iraq confirms that this allegation is a mere fabrication and baseless lies," the Iraqi delegation said. "What may have

large numbers of prisoners condemned to death or to sentences of 15 years or murderers who committed crimes of murderers who committed crimes of armed theft and premeditated murder and were legally prosecuted and con-

victed according to the law."] Reporting on human rights issues is virtually nonexistent inside Iraq, where news media are controlled and opposition to the president and his family is met with Draconian measures, including assassination and imprisonment without a fair trial.

The report followed a separate study carried out for the United Nations in March which concluded that Iraq leads the world in forced disappearances, with 16,000 people reported missing in the last decade.

The Clinton administration has made an improvement in Iraq's human rights

See IRAQ, Page 7

AGENDA

Havel Recuperating After Emergency Surgery in Austria

PRAGUE (Combined Dispatches)

- The head of Vaclay Havel's medical team in Prague said that emergency surgery the Czech president un-derwent in Austria on Tuesday had been successful and that the worst was

The head of the team that carried out the three-and-a-half-hour operation at a hospital in Innsbruck, Ernst Bodner,

Katharine Graham -Wins 1998 Pulitzer

The 1998 Pulitzer Prize for biography was awarded Tuesday to Katharine Graham, chairman of the executive committee of The Washington Post Co., for "Personal History," her autobiography. Philip Roth won the prize for fiction for "American Pastoral." The Pulitzer for drama went to Paula Vogel for "How I Learned To

ACT A CHITTICATE DEL CHECO 1- A CAT-OLO
president had every chance of making
a full recovery, "President Havel is in
a very weak condition," said Dr. Bod-
ner, who added that the perforated
lower intestine could have been life-
threatening if left untreated.
Mr. Havel, who had been vacation-
ing in the Tyrol resort of Tannheim
The Dollar

		-
	The Dollar	
New York	Tuesday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.8014	1.8238
Pound	1.685	1.6681
Yen	129.64	129.555
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said the surgery had been "technically very difficult" but that the 61-year-old	since Thursday with his wife, taken to the hospital by helicopter after com-
president had every chance of making	plaining of severe stomach pains.
a full recovery. "President Havel is in	Mr. Havel, a long-time smoker, has
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been hospitalized on several occasions since an operation to remove a cancerous tumor from his right lung in December 1996.

Aides said that no cancerous tissue was found Tuesday. (Reuters, AFP)

Back in the Classroo	m, at Age 81
SPORTS Yankees Shut Out, by	Page 21. Falling Beam
Books	Page 10
Crossword	
Орідіоп	Pages 8-9
Sports	Pages 20-21.
The Intermarket	Pages 4, 7, 12
The IHT on-line	www.iht.com

Hand of Japan Seen in Record U.S. Sale

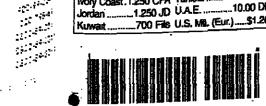
Tuesday @ 4 P.M. previous clos

By John M. Berry

WASHINGTON — At 9:45 A.M. Monday, the New York Federal Reserve Bank sent out an unusual electronic message asking traders for bids on the biggest block of U.S. Treasury bills ever sold at one time on behalf of a customer.

Although the Fed did not disclose the identity of the seller of the \$12.1 billion of short-term Treasury issues, many traders instantly concluded that it probably was the Bank of Japan, which has been aggressively buying yen in international currency markets to support that currency's value against the U.S. dollar. The huge sale was the latest example

Newsstand Prices ___LL_3,000 Andona......10.00 FF Lebanon...16 Dh _12.50 FF Morocco... 10.00 QR Cameroon...1.600 CFA Cleatar.....1250 FF ...£E 5.50 Réunion. ... 10.00 FF Saudi Arabia...... 10 SR Gabon.......1.100 CFA Senegal......1.100 CFA _225 Ptas _2,800 Lire Spain.... Ivory Coast. 1.250 CFA Turnsia 1.250 Din



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of how Japan's economic troubles can ripple through the world's financial markets. In this case, analysts said, Japan's central bank needed to sell the Treasury securities to get dollars to replace the billions it sold last week, when it intervened in currency markets to buy yen and prop up the ailing Japanese currency's value.

Analysts say the process of the Bank of Japan's currency-market intervention and the subsequent sale of Treasury securities could be repeated in coming weeks, because the intervention so far has had little lasting impact.

Japan's central bank invests the more than \$200 billion it holds in reserve in Treasury securities to earn interest. It leaves the securities in the custody of the Fed to make it easier to trade in them

The immediate impact of the sale Monday was to depress prices and help lift yields on three-month, six-month and one-year U.S. Treasury bills by as much as one-tenth of a percentage point - a significant amount in the gigantic bill market. Although the Fed often buys

See T-BILLS, Page 17

Public Rebuke for Japan

IMF and U.S. Call for Action to Avert Recession

By Alan Friedman

WASHINGTON -- Japan came under heavy and unusually public inter-national pressure Tuesday to take further and stronger steps to propel its economy into a recovery spurred by domestic demand and to open its markets to the world.

In separate remarks here, both Michel Carndessus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, and Robert Rubin, the U.S. Treasury secretary, called upon Japan, which is teetering on the brink of recession, to act as an engine of growth for the struggling economies of Asia and for the rest of the world. Although Tokyo's newly announced \$75 billion tax cut and public spending plan were "encouraging" and represented "steps in the right direction," Mr. Camdessus said, the IMF still considered the Japanese situation "a serious concern.

We are not there yet," Mr. Camdessus said at a news conference before the annual spring meetings of the IMF and the Group of Seven industrial na-tions. Mr. Rubin, meanwhile, said "the world is focused" on the need for a Japanese recovery.

"Just as the world focused on our fiscal deficits in the late 1980s and early 1990s and said these were problems

1990s and said these were problems both for America and for the rest of the world, so the world is now very focused on Japan," Mr. Rubin said.

He predicted there would be "particular focus" on economic growth in Japan during the G-7 meeting of top finance officials and central bank chiefs here Wednesday. "What is absolutely critical is that Japan get back on a track of strong domestic degrand.led growth of strong domestic demand-led growth not only for itself but for the rest of the world," Mr. Rubin said.

Chile Visit By Clinton Will Press Free Trade

By Thomas W. Lippman Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton, racking up the air miles in a hectic schedule of international travel, will leave Wednesday night for a four-day visit to Chile, where he will be the guest of President Eduardo Frei for a state visit and then participate in the second "Summit of the Americas." a gathering of leaders from all Western Hemisphere nations ex-

cept Cuba.

The centerpiece of the visit, which will underline the increasing importance of the economic ties of the two hemispheres, will be the launching of negotiations to produce a hemispheric free-trade zone by 2005. The timetable was established at the first Summit of the

Americas in Miami in 1994. Despite opposition from his party, top White House aides say that Mr. Clinton will push for a free-trade zone stretching from Alaska to Cape Horn.

Like many presidents before him, Mr. Clinton is spending more time abroad in his second term than

Last month he visited six countries in Africa. After Chile, he is

scheduled to go to England and probably Northern Ireland in May and to China in June. His international ventures provide some respite from the re-

lentless press and prosecutorial scrutiny of his private life, but his senior advisers also note that the swing through Africa and the Americas summit were scheduled long before anyone in Washington had heard of Monica Lewinsky. "The state visit to Chile and the

Santiago summit are the culmination of yearlong engagement with the Americas," said the White House national security adviser,

See CLINTON, Page 7

reacted to remarks made in Tokyo by Hikaru Matsunaga, the Japanese finance minister.

Mr. Matsunaga took issue with the IMF's forecast of no better than zero growth in 1998, calling it "difficult to understand." He also said that he was "worried" about whether Mr. Rubin and the deputy U.S. Treasury secretary, Lawrence Summers, "know enough

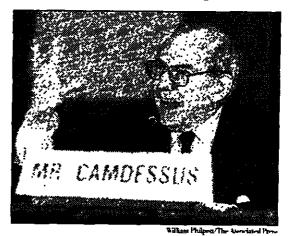
about Japan's tax sys-tem." Mr. Camdessus defended the IMF forecast, saying, "We have prosaying, 'We have pro-duced for Japan our pro-visional guess of zero growth, but we would love to be wrong and find rea-

Mr. Camdessus in Washington on Tues-day. He called Tokyo's 75 billion stimulus plan "encouraging" but warned that the IMF still considered the Japanese situation "a serious concern."

Both Mr. Rubin and Mr. Camdessus sons to be wrong." He said he looked acted to remarks made in Tokyo by latest stimulus package, which he called temporary." He also hinted at the prospect, "down the road, to make the tem-

porary measures permanent. When asked to respond to Mr. Matsunaga's questioning of whether the U.S. Treasury team understood Japan's

See IMF, Page 17



Koreans Search for Family As Their Time Runs Short

Optimism Blooms as 2 Sides Discuss Contacts

By Mary Jordan Washington Posi Service

SEOUL - For the last 50 years, Cho Dong Young would close his eyes and see his little sister, Chae, dancing around their childhood home, singing a song called "Spring Lady" when springtime was brighter in the northern

half of Korea.

For Mr. Cho, 74, the fate of his five brothers and sisters and his parents has been a haunting mystery locked inside the sealed Stalinist borders of North Korea. He last saw them when he left home to attend college in Japan in 1947, shortly before the North's new Communist government closed its borders to the world.

As the decades passed, Mr. Cho had no word about his family until 10 days ago, when he received a one-paragraph letter from Chae. It had been routed through Los Angeles and a series of mutual friends, and it hit Mr. Cho like an

aching from deep inside.

"She said everybody was dead but her," he said. "I cried all night long."

For the past four days, North and South Korean officials in a Beijing hotel have been discussing uniting hundreds of thousands of families like Mr. Cho's. The talks, widely described as historic and landmark in front-page news here. stalled Tuesday, with the impoverished North asking for shiploads of fertilizer before discussing a timetable for re-unions. But there is still guarded optimism about eventual reunions because

both sides are saying they want elderly people to see their relatives before they

North Korea has recently indicated that it will help collect addresses and set up a direct exchange of mail between family members. As early as June, South Korea is to set up a government information center to help families locate relatives in the North.

Since the 1950-53 Korean War, no letters, phone calls or other forms of direct contact have been permitted between civilians on different sides of the border. While Cold War frontiers have toppled everywhere else in the world. this holdout from that era is still guarded by what may well be the fiercest collection of artillery and soldiers in the

tional unification minister, announced Tuesday that Seoul would amend national security laws so that people in the South could directly send small amounts of money to family members in the North.

Kang In Duck, the South Korean na-

The sudden flurry of government concern about separated families is helping to melt at feast the top layer of ice between the two enemies.

The warming has not come easily. In 1970, private groups estimated that 5 million South Koreans had a parent, sibling or child in the North; estimates of how many have immediate family members in the North now range from 400,000 to 1 million.

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See KOREA, Page 6

Agnelli Relishes Challenge

Welcoming Euro, Italy's Uncrowned King Warns, 'We've Got to Reform the Old-Fashioned Ways'



TURIN — When he falls and breaks a

Mr. Agnelli, the family patriarch.

European Arms Companies: United They Could Stand

By Joseph Fitchett

PARIS - If Europe combined its seven top defense companies, annual sales would be \$28 billion - making for a powerhouse that could take on all comers, like Lockheed Martin at \$21 billion in sales or even a Boeing McDonnell Douglas combination with Northrop Grumman, which would come in at \$27 billion.

But in reality, Europe's leading defense companies are far from united. On the contrary, they remain largely national in their structures and their markets, with the result that there are too many companies earning too little money to be viable in the

FRANCISCO CONTRA CONTRACTO DE LA CONTRACTOR DE LA CONTRAC

The companies face the threat that big U.S. rivals could establish a global technological dominance, according to Marcel Bischoff, bead of Daimler-Benz

Second of two articles

Acrospace, and shut out Europe from a future hightechnology defense market that will be both vastly lucrative and the basis for military and political power. In a bid to halt this slide, a blue-ribbon panel of

aerospace executives has just completed a shidy for

European leaders that urged Britain, France and Ger-

long run, executives and analysts largely agree. many, Europe's three main arms producers, to pool their national defense manufacturers.

Since the shake-out of the U.S. defense industry in the 1980s and 1990s concentrated manufacturing in a handful of giant companies, the idea of a similar restructuring for Europe has been frequently voiced.

But the still-secret report last month broke new ground, according to sources familiar with the text, by deciding that European governments must choose quickly between two blueprints.

One path is toward forming a giant European defense conglomerate - nicknamed by insiders "Euro-

See DEFENSE, Page 6

By Celestine Bohlen New York Times Service

bone, it is front-page news. Any time he makes an offhand comment on anything from politics to soccer, it is picked up and replayed as if he were Italy's own Delphic oracle. His family is treated like royalty, the way royalty used to be treated - with respect, distance and, above all, discretion.

There is no one in Italy — perhaps even in Europe — quite like Giovanni Agnelli, the head of a family that is synonymous with Italian business both here and abroad. And no one knows it better than L'Avvocato - or The Lawyer, as Mr. Agnelli is always called in Italian headlines — and the staff that hovers over him like nannies.over a precocious child.

Sitting in the corner office at the original Fiat automobile factory that his grandfather — known in his day as the Senator — founded almost 100 years ago, Mr. Agnelli, now 76 and semiretired, shrugged off the weight of this extraordinary public image with self-deprecating humor and a dash of ennui-"It has been there a long time." he

said diffidently of his image, checking off his various roles over the decades soldier in the 1940s, playboy in the 1950s, embattled industrialist in the turbulent '60s and '70s, and the uncrowned king of Italy ever since. "I have been here all the time. I don't think there is anyone born who hasn't seen me around.'

In all those years, Mr. Agnelli has probably met more world leaders than any other industrialist in the world and for each, he has a description down pat.

See AGNELLI, Page 6

By Jon Jeter Nashington Post Service

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ORTHFIELD, Minnesota — Spring quarter at the Cannon Valley Elder Collegium began last week. Students made their way to classes rather slowly, but hardly anyone was late. Some came in wheelchairs, others used walkers. Some steadied themselves by leaning on friends, arriving arm-in-arm with a class-

Blind in one eye. Julia Savina sat pitched forward in her seat, using a magnifying glass to read the course syllabus she had just been handed. The instructor prints everything in extra large type for the students in his technology class, but Mrs. Savina still needs a little help seeing.

She is 81. Last semester, she enrolled in a course on Amish history but had to drop out when she fell and hurt her hip. The retired schoolteacher returned to her studies after four weeks of physical therapy.

My husband died in 1995, and I really need this mental stimulation. Mrs. Savina said, casing into a chair to talk after class. "I had so much fun last term learning to write poetry, which I never thought I

Gray-haired and frail, she smiles as she leans back into her chair. "You can only play so much bingo, you know.

hingo, you know."
And so it goes here at perhaps the only institution of higher education in the United States designed specifically for the aged. The students' bodies may be weakened, but their spirits are willing. If some are hard of hearing, their minds are hungry still.

The Cannon Valley Elder Collegium opened last fall in this cozy little two-college town 40 miles (65 kilometers) south of Minneapolis. A group of retired anneassors and academics pounded up mughly \$8,000.

professors and academics rounded up roughly \$8,000 in government grants and recruited nearly 30 of the former faculty members who live in town to teach college-level courses with titles such as "The Drama of Henrik Ibsen," "Goethe's Faust" and "The Fur Trade in North America." No arts and crafts here.

Enrollment this quarter has jumped to about 50 students, most of whom are over 65 and many of whom are in their 80s, although no one knows for sure because "at our age, we don't go around asking people how old they are." said Ron Ronning, 68, a retired high school humanities teacher and the collegium's program director.

Collegium students can receive continuing education credits, but no grades are given, no degrees conferred. No one here is looking for any of that.

'Everyone here really wants to be here," said George Soule, a retired literature professor who is teaching "Hamlet" to eight students this quarter. "They're not looking for a better job or to further their appears he hairs have They're not better. their career by being here. They're not here to impress their parents. All they want to do is learn."

At the Elder Collegium, there are no fraternities, no backpacks, no baseball caps worn backward, no hung-over students nodding off in the classroom. Students here are more likely to wear orthopedic shoes than Nikes, hearing aids than earrings. Each class lasts for eight weeks and costs \$50, and the source of students' financial aid is more likely to be a pension than a parent or a grant. Most of the students who enrolled in a course on the Depression last quarter had actually lived through it.

As America's elderly live longer, the number of people 65 or older enrolled in college courses has risen steadily over the last decade. Hazel Reinhardt, director of marketing research at the Newspaper Management Center of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, said the trend was



Julia Sarina, above, using a magnifying glass to read course notes: 'My husband died in 1995, and I really need this mental stimulation. I had so much fun last term learning to write poetry. You can only play so much bingo, you know.'

boomer generation, with its higher rate of education, moved into retirement. "I think this whole

area is one that is going to develop." she said. With two highly regarded liberal arts colleges in town - Carleton and St. Olaf - the quaint, bucolic locale of Northfield is home to an uncommon brain trust: Of nearly 15,000 residents, about 150 are retired professors. A road sign on the periphery of this learned but fun-loving town bills Northfield as a place for "cows, colleges and contentment."

"Everybody here is in a book club or two." Mr. Ronning said. He said he and his wife. Bettye, had attended casual group discussions held at senior citizen centers that "frankly, we found a little patronizing."

It's as if people think that seniors are either unwilling or unable to engage in serious study. The collegium provides just that. There are assignments. and people come prepared."

HE COURSE on "Hamlet" is held at Northfield's Retirement Center. Eight students at a conference table pay rapt attention to Mr. Soule, a white-haired, animated man who lectures at a rapid-fire pace on

'His characters tend to be very complex." Mr. Soule says. "They're far deeper than many people I've known in real life."

Mr. Soule engages his students in a discussion of the play's opening verse. Virtually all of the students in the classroom contribute something to the dialogue. One of Mr. Soule's students is Marilyn Will, 59, a retired schoolteacher whose former students include Mr. Soule's daughter, now 31. Widowed two years ago. Mrs. Will enrolled in two courses last to accelerate in years to come as the baby | quarter. She came back for more this quarter and | can actually discover a thing or two

brought along a friend, 81-year-old Jane Eckardt. I have always loved education from both sides of the desk," said Mrs. Will, who first attended college 40 years ago. "I just came to class expecting to be filled up back then. Now I feel as though I have something to contribute to the class and to the discussion.

As she said this, an exaggerated grimace spread across Mrs. Eckardi's face. "It won't be any dif-ferent for me," said Mrs. Eckardi, who first enrolled in college in 1934. "I still expect to just be filled up. I'm dead between the ears."

Mrs. Will smiled at her friend's familiar, selfdeprecating brand of humor. The two women taught school together and have been friends for a quarter century. "Our husbands were friends." Mrs. Eckardt said. "We gave each other advice on our kids." She leaned forward and lowered her voice. "We

tried to figure out what was wrong with them.

During a break, Mrs. Will told Mrs. Eckardt she would pick up a copy of "Hamlet" for her. "I'll just shop for both of us, and you can lay the money on me later." she said to her older friend.

Mrs. Eckardt paused. "Did I remember to lay money on you for my registration?" she asked.
"Yes, you did." Mrs. Will reassured her.

That gets to be a problem when you're 81. Mrs. Eckardt said.

At his wife's urging, 66-year-old Donald Krause enrolled in "Cultural Conversations." On Tuesday evenings, he'll debate topics such as the role of an activist federal judiciary with his peers and a group of local high school students. "This is fun," said Mr. Krause, a retired schoolteacher, "You know, most senior citizens aren't just waiting to die. We

U.S. Air Traffic Routes To Get Broad Redesign: By Matthew I Wall

By Matthew L. Wald New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Hoping to cut down on delays for passengers and on the noise endured by people on the ground, the Federal Aviation Admin-istration plans to redesign air traffic routes around the country. starting with the highly congested New York area.

The effort was disclosed by Jane Garvey, the agency's administrator, after meeting with New Jersey lawmakers who have been pressing the government for a thorough overhaul of how air traffic is handled in the region.

At a news conference Monday in Newark, New Jersey, she said that her agency had been planning since last fall to analyze the routes and to begin "with a blank piece of paper." She said the effort would begin in the region in Ju-

ly.

Newark had the worst air delays in the nation last year and has ranked the

worst in nine of the last 14 years.

People are sick and tired of the mess that the aviation system is in," said Senator Frank Lautenberg, who was among the lawmakers who met with Ms. Garvey. "They are terribly upset about the delays. People have missed appointments, missed conferences and missed connections.

Mr. Lautenberg also recounted a tale that will sound familiar to any airline passenger. He said that he had "gotten into airplanes that were an hour late in their departure and arrived at Newark and sat 45 minutes waiting for a gate."

Several aviation agency officials said they believe this is the agency's first plan for a nationwide review, although routes on the East Coast were redrawn in 1987. The new effort is expected to take several years and cost tens of millions of dollars, but changes could take effect before the plan is finished.

Ms. Garvey said the idea had been to focus first on the eastern United States, in an area roughly bounded by Boston, Chicago and Miami, because its airspace is the most congested and most prone to delays.

FAA officials said that the redesign

had been under discussion for months. but that no public announcement had been made and none had been planned. It was only after Mr. Lautenberg and Representatives William Pascrell Jr. and Robert Menendez — all New Jersey Democrats — escorted Ms. Garvey to a lectern outside the Port Authority administration building at Newark International Airport that the plans became

Airspace around Newark has been rearranged before, mostly in an effort to limit noise. A six-month experiment began a month ago, with planes that leave Runway 22 making a shallow right turn 2.3 miles (4 kilometers) from the end of the runway, to keep them over an industrial area of Elizabeth, Rahway and Carteret and away from residential

And the federal agency occasionally changes higher-allitude routes, including arrival and departure patterns, to try

to reduce congestion. But controllers say congestion is growing especially in the New York

"We have a portion of airspace that is just oversaturated." said Joseph Fruscella, a vice president of the National "We have to start doing something because traffic is not dying down; it is

The aviation administration would like to change the way planes are directed in flight. Most of them fly on air routes staked out from radio beacon to radio beacon, on paths that resemble railroad tracks.

Rather than going from city to city as the crow flies, they sometimes go many miles out of their way. Eventually, the agency would like to move to "free flight." with each plane picking its own route and controllers intervening only when a conflict seems imminent. But that system would take major improve. ments in agency computers.

The review is unusual because it covers all altitudes. When the aviation administration reviews flight path changes to reduce noise, it considers planes at altitudes up to 18,000 feet, or more than

three miles.

But if it changes patterns below this level, it will also have to change rough above that level, experts say, because planes will be crossing the 18,000-from

level in different places.

Newark, La Guardia and Kenned Airports together handle nearly 5,000 flights a day, nearly a tenth the national total. While it can take hours to move from one airport to another on the ground, they are too close for comfort from the air, and their traffic patterns distort each other's.

But Newark, with huge growth in the ast few years, is the worst of the three

TRAVEL UPDATE

Snow Cripples Moscow MOSCOW (AP) - The heaviest mid-April snowfall in the Russian cap-

ital in at least a hundred years continued to wreak havoc Tuesday, clogging traffic and grounding flights at Mosco By Tuesday morning, Moscow was

covered with some 30 centimeters (12 inches) of snow that began falling Sugday night, the weather forecast service

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Latharine Grahan

Pilots' Strike: Day 9

TOKYO (AFP) — A pilots' strike grounded several All Nippon Airwass international flights Tuesday for the ninth straight day.

The airline said it was losing 200

million yen (\$1.5 million) a day as the dispute over wages continued.

Near-collisions between aircraft have doubled since the early 1990s Britain's Civil Aviation Authority said There were 26 such incidents involving commercial aircraft in 1996, up from 1 in 1995 and 13 in 1992 and 1993, # agency said.

Olympic Airways canceled mor flights at Athens due to worker protests at Greece's troubled national cam-

Tarom, the Romanian national airtine, said it would add a stop in Sam Mare, in western Romania, to its Sunday Bucharest-New York flight. (AP)

Gore Lists Priorities for Airline Safety

By Matthew L. Wald New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - Vice President Al Gore announced priorities for airline safety Tuesday to help the airline industry and the Federal Avisuch efforts as more rigorous checks of engine parts, new seat-belt use.

The announcement was in-Commission on Aviation Safety and Security: to reduce fatal accidents by 80 percent.

A high-ranking adminis-tration official said that the effort was aimed at choosing among improvements already under consideration.

things." the official said. "and

New Phif Afla Mor Flor

change. We ve got too many things on our plate to do."

that the priority list being established was "a living docsafety problem.

similar point about setting priorities. She said in Decemthe agency, she found more navigation errors. than 1.000 safety recommendations on hand.

We're running around my-

Turn here for

THE INTERMARKET

as the winds blow in different closely to prevent accidents meet the plane. The newer directions, our priorities in which rotating parts fly equipment compares the Another official stressed in the cabin or into crucial

mechanical parts.

simply the most recent crash, such equipment, but smaller in setting priorities in the futended to help meet a goal set last year by the White House to improve their databases.

apart, flinging turbine blades like missiles into passengers

In addition. Mr. Gore said ument" that would change if that the agency would proation Administration focus on a new crash showed another mulgate a rule requiring planes to carry new equip-FAA officials said they ment for warning of possible equipment to help planes wanted to rely more heavily collisions with mountains. avoid flying into mountains on analysis of past accidents. Several big airlines have and a campaign to increase and incidents, rather than already promised to install

> ones have not. Jane Garvey, the adminis-accidents called "controlled Two airlines, American and trator of the FAA, has made a flight into terrain," in which a United, recently said they plane, usually flying through darkness or clouds, is piloted ber that when she arrived at into a mountain because of

> > Correction

Planes already have sys-Among the improvements the pilot if the plane seems too belt light is off. announced was a program to low, but in the mountains the

plane's location with a global database of mountains, in effect looking forward rather than down.

Experts say that the crash last year of a Korean Airlines plane in Guam and the American Airlines crash near Cali, Colombia, in December 1995, could have been avoided with such equipment. The agency also plans to

reopen discussions with airlines about reducing the toll The new equipment is in- of deaths and injuries from tended to eliminate a class of turbulence, officials said. United, recently said they planned to tell passengers that they must keep their belts tastened whenever they are in their seats, although passengers may still stand and walk tems that look down and warn in the aisles when the seat-

It was not clear whether the inspect engine parts more terrain can rise rapidly to FAA will make that a rule.

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Pentagon Distress Signal Over a New World Court

It Warns Embassies of Frivolous Inquiries

By Eric Schmitt New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - When the Pentagon urgently called in more than 100 foreign military attachés from embassies here two weeks ago, they expected to be briefed on the next crisis threatening world peace.

Instead, the military aides were surgrised by warnings of a potential menace to their troops that most had never considered: the proposed International Criminal Court, scheduled to be established as a permanent tribunal to try tyrants such as Pol Pot for human-rights abuses or Saddam Hussein for war crimes.

The Pentagon warned the attachés that if the court was set up and was not properly restrained, it could target their own soldiers — particularly when they were acting as peacekeepers — and subject them to frivolous or politically motivated investigations by a rogue

prosecutor or an overzealous tribunal. It was unusual," a seasoned West-ern military officer said of the 30minute briefing he attended. After the meetings, on March 31 and April 1. several of the attachés dashed off urgent messages to their superiors back home, which in turn set off alarms up the chains of command.

For nearly four years, the United States has supported the efforts of dip-lomats at the United Nations to create a permanent international criminal court. All 185 members of the United Nations will be invited to a conference in Rome in June to establish the court by statute. But now that the tribunal is within reach, the United States is pressing to limit its authority and independence.

 While President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright have endorsed the idea of a court, they have given their blessing to the Pentagon to become the attack dog in the U.S. campaign to create a court more to Washington's liking.

Human rights advocates contend that the American military establishment has set off an unnecessary uproar that may ultimately weaken efforts to create the first permanent world tribunal to deal with genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. It would re- international security affairs.

place ad hoc tribunals like those set up for Rwanda and the Balkans.

'An unintended result of all this is that a number of defense ministers are raising unfounded concerns about the project," said Christopher Keith Hall, a legal adviser for Amnesty International in London.

A three-page memorandum distributed at the Pentagon briefings says: "The U.S. is committed to the successful establishment of a court. But we are also intent on avoiding the creation of the wrong kind of court.

The wrong court, in the view of the administration and particularly the Pentagon, would put tiny players on the world stage, such as Benin or Trinidad and Tobago, on an equal footing with the United States. And that, they fear. could lead to unfounded accusations against soldiers assigned as peacekeepers in difficult situations.

They really wanted to reinforce to us the idea, 'Do you know this is going on?' 'said a Western military attaché who attended one of the briefings.

A European diplomat at the same meeting said, "It was a lobbying effort; clearly it was."

The Pentagon also sent a senior team to Europe, where the officials hopscotched from London to Paris to Brussels to Rome to Bonn, impressing top military brass in each capital with the American arguments. Human-rights advocates say the campaign may yield dangerous, unintended consequences.

'What the people at the Pentagon

didn't realize is that they went after a fly with a shotgun," said Cherif Bassiouni, a law professor at De Paul University in Chicago and deputy chairman of the UN panel that prepared the draft text to be presented in Rome. "The attachés got scared, sent home cables and got every-one in a tizzy," he said, "What the Pentagon has done may undermine the policy established by the president."

But Pentagon officials deny using any pressure tactics and assert that no foreign military official has complained.

'It was not lobbying; there was no arm-twisting - it was awareness-raising," said Frederick Smith, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for



LAUGHING IT UP - The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, telling a joke that broke up Jay Leno, the television talk show host. Mr. Gingrich is on a tour to promote his new book about his life and politics.

Away From **Politics**

 A common derivative of vitamin A. retinoic acid, may block cancer in the body, researchers said. The body makes retinoic acid from vitamin A. which comes from the yellow or orange compounds known as carotenes found in vegetables ranging from carrots to squash.

 The effort to discover cancer in its early stages, when it is more easily treated, could get a boost from a highly sensitive new blood test that uses magnets to concentrate the cancer cells from blood and lasers to observe

 An Italian tourist who was kicked off an airline flight for assaulting an attendant who tried to stop him from smoking has been sentenced to seven days in jail in Bangor, Maine. A Con-tinental Airlines flight bound for Newark, New Jersey, was diverted to Bangor on Friday, and Ignazio Miliano of Ribera, Italy was removed and arrested after the commotion.

 Boys who got free condoms in high school in Los Angeles did not have sex more often, a new study shows. But they were more likely to use condoms when they did have sex.

POLITICAL NOTES

Clinton Lawyer Assails Starr

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton's personal lawyer attacked Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, accusing Mr. Starr of being unable to investigate "credibly or appropriately" allegations that David Hale, a key witness in the Whitewater real estate inquiry, was paid off by conservative activists.

In a letter made public Monday, the lawyer, David Kendall, outlined the independent counsel's links to the conservative philanthropist Richard Mellon Scaife, who financed an effort by The American Spectator magazine to uncover negative information about the president. That project was the source of alleged payoffs to Mr. Hale while he was a central cooperating witness in Mr. Starr's investigation.

Mr. Kendall asked Mr. Starr to request that the Justice Department — rather than Mr. Starr's office investigate the Hale allegations, which were made by the former girlfriend of a longtime friend of Mr. Hale's. "I do not think you or your office can credibly or appropriately conduct this investiga-

tion," Mr. Kendall wrote to Mr. Start in the letter. On Thursday, the Justice Department urged Mr.

Starr to investigate the allegations but alerted the independent counsel that he might face a conflict of interest in doing so. The Justice letter, from Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder Jr., included a statement that Mr. Starr might have such a conflict because of the importance of Hale to your investigation and because the payments allegedly came from funds provided by Richard Scaife."

Mr. Starr's office has not yet decided what it plans to do with the Hale allegations. "We're evaluating what our response will be, and to whom," said a spokesman for the office, adding that a decision was expected soon. Hickman Ewing, the deputy independent counsel, said last week there was no evidence that FBI agents or anyone in Mr. Starr's office knew of any money going to Mr. Hale.

Budget Chief Steps Down

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton accepted the resignation Tuesday of Franklin Raines as director of the Office of Management and Budget and nominated his deputy, Jack Lew, as his successor. Mr. Raines, 49, will become chairman and chief executive officer of Fannie Mae Corp., after serving for more than a year and a half as Mr. Clinton's budget chief. Fannie Mae issues secondary mort-

Mr. Raines was praised by the president as "a brilliant OMB director" trusted by Republican and Democratic lawmakers alike.

Mr. Lew was at Mr. Raines' side for the months of meetings between administration officials and congressional leaders last year that produced the budgetbalancing deal.

Quote/Unquote

Mark Plotkin, a Washington political analyst, on the speculation over whether Washington's mayor, Marion Barry, who has served four terms since 1974, and a jail sentence on drug charges, will seek a fifth four-year term this year: "He has never toyed with the public like this. I think he has decided that there is nothing left to prove. He came back, rising like the Phoenix, in one of the greatest political comebacks of all time, and he could go out on a high - although that's an unfortunate choice of words.

Katharine Graham Wins a Pulitzer for Autobiography; Philip Roth for Fiction

NEW YORK (AP) - The 1998 Pulitzer Prize for biography was awarded Tuesday to Katharine survivors of the conflicts in Rwanda and Burundi.

The Pulitzer for breaking news reporting category for a profile of the criticism category for her explanatory reporting category for a profile of the criticism category for her to the Los Angeles Times for coverage of a Human Genome Diversity Project, which seeks to the Los Angeles Times two. The prizes, the botched bank robbery and subsequent police chart the genetic relationship among all people.

The Pulitzer for breaking news reporting category for a profile of the criticism category for her to the Los Angeles Times for coverage of a Human Genome Diversity Project, which seeks to the Los Angeles Times two. The prizes, the botched bank robbery and subsequent police chart the genetic relationship among all people.

The Pulitzer for breaking news reporting category for a profile of the criticism category for her to the Los Angeles Times won three Pulitzers and to the Los Angeles Times two. The prizes, the botched bank robbery and subsequent police chart the genetic relationship among all people.

tory," her autobiography.

Philip Roth won the prize for fiction for "Amer-

profiling the effects of drug corruption in Mexico.

Philip Roth won the prize for fiction for "American Pastoral." The Pulitzer for drama went to Paula Vogel for "How I Learned To Drive."

Russell Carolio and Jeff Nesmith of the Dayton
The award for investigative reporting went to Gary Cohn and Will England of The Sun of Balthe commentary category, Mike McAlary of the New York Daily News was honored for his timore for a series on dangers to workers and the management in the military balls. highest awards in American journalism, are shoot-out in North Hollywood.

The spot news photography prize went to Martha
Rial of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for portraits of flood and fire that devastated much of the city.

The spot news photography prize went to Martha
Rial of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for portraits of flood and fire that devastated much of the city.

Paul Salopek of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Paul Salopek of the Chicago Tribune work

aula Vogel for "How I Learned To Drive."

New York Daily News was honored for his timore for a series on dangers to workers and the management in the military health care system.

The New York Times staff won the 1998 columns on the alleged attack on a Haitian imenvironment when discarded ships are dismantled.

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In the beat reporting category, Linda Green-Times was honored for feature writing for a infeature photography for documenting the plight of

Paul Salopek of the Chicago Tribune won in the

Russell Carollo and Jeff Nesmith of the Dayton

Michiko Kakutani of The New York Times

while on a Florida vacation.

of the Riverdale Press, a New York City weekly, for editorials on politics and other city issues.

The editorial cartooning prize went to Stephen

Pulitzer Prize for international reporting for a series migrant in a New York police station.

In the beat reporting category, Linda GreenTimes was honored for feature writing for a series migrant in a New York police station.

In the beat reporting category, Linda GreenTimes was honored for feature writing for a in feature photography for documenting the plight of house of The New York Times was honored for portrait of a mother and two daughters killed children with parents addicted to drugs and alcohol.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Indian Languages Take a Slide Toward an Unspoken Oblivion

James Jackson Jr., 88, says he still re-James Jackson Jr., 88, says he still remembers the day many decades ago when a teacher at his Indian school grabbed a friend who was speaking their Hupa language and said, "You're speaking your language—I'm going to wash your mouth out with soap." Mr. Jackson is one of only a handful of surviving Hupa speakers a handful of surviving Hupa speakers.

Such stories were common on Indian reservations around the United States. Surprisingly, most of North America's Indian languages have survived. Of the approximately 300 Indian languages that existed when Europeans first arrived, 211 are still spoken, reports The New York Times.

But with the impact of television and radio and increased mobility among Indians, those native languages are suffering a free fall. Of the 175 Indian languages still spoken in the United States, only 20 are spoken by mothers to babies, said Michael Krauss, a linguist at the University of Alaska. 'This is a major American tragedy,' Mr. Krauss said.

The trend is of wider sweep. With the rise of a global economy and increased communications, about half the world's 6,000 languages are expected to disappear over the next century. Among American Indians, however, the process is already far advanced. In California, 50 native languages are still spoken. But not one is being spoken natively by children.

Indians are dismissive of federal efforts to help; a U.S. program spends \$2 million a year on language preservation. Greater hopes are placed on programs like the Native California Network, in which 50 young "apprentices" undergo intensive language immersions with "masters," tribal elders who speak the language. Similar efforts are under way in other states.

Short Takes

The 550,000 U.S. members of the Sierra Club are deciding whether to take a stand against human migration patterns. They are now voting on whether to favor efforts to slow the flow of immigrants to the United States, or to remain neutral on the issue. Supporters say overpopulation cansed by immigration hurts the environment. Opponents, however, say the

measure is racist and xenophobic. The proposal would require the environmental group to develop a policy advocating immigration restrictions and to lobby Congress on the idea. Member have until April 18 to return their bailots. Among those backing a reduction in im-migration are Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day, and Stewart Udall, a former Interior secretary. The Sierra Club leadership wants to maintain the status quo.

Bruce Morrow won the 1995-96 Big Game Award in Texas, displaying a 12-point set of deer antiers from a buck he says he shot in South Texas, big stuff in a big hunting state. But prosecutors now say he didn't bag the buck, he bought it. Mr. Morrow is about to go on trial in Austin on charges of tampering with a government record; he faces up to two years in jail. Mr. Morrow's troubles began when a

hunting magazine ran a photo of him pos-ing with the antlers. A collector thought the antiers were a dead ringer for a set he had sold to a dealer. He notified authorities. Mr. Morrow is known to have rejected a plea bargain calling for 45 days in jail, 200 hours of community service and a \$5,000 fine — plus a public apology. He apparently found that a bit stiff, considering that the contest paid no prize money,

only bragging rights. But his alleged of-fense is no laughing matter in Texas.

"Here in the state of Texas, we take that pretty seriously," said Derry Gardner of the Texas Wildlife Association. "Personally, I don't think they could treat a person like that bad enough."

Brian Knowlton

Albright Seeks to Put Off Foreigner's Execution

By Linda Greenhouse New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court was considering whether to intervene in Breard and his native country a Virginia death penalty case that has unusual international implications as well as possibly unsettling consequences for thousands of other cases involving the incarceration of

foreigners in U.S. prisons.
In a brief filed Monday, the
Clinton administration told the justices that despite an order last week by the International Court of Justice that the United States "take all measures at its disposal" to stop Virginia from executing a Paraguayan citizen, there was no legal basis for granting requests by Paraguay and the prisoner for a stay of execution.

The prisoner, Angel Fran-cisco Breard, was convicted in 1992 of murdering a woman in Virginia and was to die at 9 At the same time, Secretary P.M. Tuesday. Both Mr. of State Madeleine Albright argue that the execution would violate U.S. obligations under an international treaty, the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Virginia has con-

ceded that it violated the treaty

of his right to help from Paraguayan consular officials. The administration's brief, filed by Solicitor General Seth Waxman in response to a high court request, said that while "there can be no doubt of the irreparable harm to Breard from the carrying out

wrote Governor James Gilmore 3d of Virginia, ask-

ing that he voluntarily grant a stay of execution as a way of honoring the treaty. In light of the order Thursday by the Court of Justice, Mrs. Alby not informing Mr. Breard bright said, Mr. Breard's immediate execution "could be seen as a denial by the United States of the significance of international law and the

court's processes in its international relations and thereby limit our ability to ensure that Americans are protected when living or traveling abroad." Although the brief filed by

of his sentence of execution," Although the brief filed by Virginia would also suffer the solicitor general and the harm "by an order preventing letter sent by Ms. Albright

it from carrying out its law-fully entered judgment of ex-ecution in a timely fashion." appeared on one level to be contradictory, they were ac-tually part of a coordinated remedy with the "persuatually part of a coordinated sion" administration strategy to state's letter. Mr. Gilmore deal with an escalating international incident. That was made clear by Mr. Waxman's 52-page brief, which offered the secretary of state's letter as an example of an appro-

> intervention, which the brief said was inappropriate within the system of federalism.

priate response to the Court of

had no immediate response. The Vienna Convention, signed by the United States in 1963 and ratified by the Senate in 1969, requires that a person who is arrested in a foreign country be promptly notified

sular officials, who are entitled to visit the person and arrange The brief contrasted the for legal representation.

with the home country's con-

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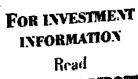
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By Seth Mydans

ANLONG VENG, Cambodia — The writing here is on the walls, in a cement schoolhouse abandoned when the Khmer Rouge guerrillas

fled a government attack two weeks ago.

Large blackboards list the rules of behavior that were enforced in this village during the years when it was the core of a stark, self-contained Communist society — along with the penalty for disobedience: death

No stealing. No drunkenness. No prostitution. No marriage outside the commune. No commerce without permission. No contact with outsiders. No listening to any radio station other than that of the Khmer Rouge.

"Anyone who disobeys the Angkar will be killed," reads the blackboard. The Angkar — meaning "the organization" — was the anonymous leadership that ruled Cambodia from 1975 to 1979 and caused the deaths of more than one million people.

forces, in other strongholds, gave up the fight. Khmer Rouge defectors control Anlong Veng, which stands empty and silent in the hot sun, and they, too, have made their mark on the school-

house walls: One of them has written, in careful but flawed English: "This is a place of Khmer Red, now the olyers got. They run untill to stay at Thailand. Signature: Solyers of Gavamente.

The bang of a tank cannon echoed off the cement walls Monday, and a young soldier jumped. The war is not yet over. The last several nundred guerrillas have retreated to the Dangrek Mountains on the border with Thailand, a hazy blue ridge 14 kilometers (9 miles) away. Seven artillery rounds fired by the Khmer

Rouge landed in Anlong Veng near the abandoned home of the guerrillas' leader, Ta Mok. On a visit here, General Meas Sophea, deputy back and forth across the border at Ban Sa-Ngam.

out here - apart from a short-lived government that the guerrillas' mountain stronghold could occupation in 1994 - even as the bulk of its fall within a few days. But the Khmer Rouge remain a powerful force that has already retaken Now Cambodian government soldiers and Anlong Veng once since it fell two weeks ago, and the progress of the battle is unclear. Several thousand villagers who fled at the time have not

been allowed to return. General Meas Sophea also asserted that Mr. Ta Mok had crossed the border into Thailand, presumably taking with him the founder of the Khmer Rouge, Pol Pot, who is now ailing and demoted from his leadership post,

"Ta Mok is in Thai territory," the general said. "As far as we know, Pol Pot is with him. Ta Mok is in Ban Sa-Ngam, three kilometers inside Thai territory." He said he based this statement on "information from people who have come from that area.

Thailand has vigorously denied that the Khmer Rouge have taken sanctuary on its territory, although for years the guerrillas have moved easily

is within a 16-kilometer Thai border zone that cannot be entered by outsiders without permission. Foreign reporters outside the zone say there beautiful. Widely spaced thatched huts stand is no indication whether any Khmer Rouge sol-

diers or leaders have crossed the border.
The United States is eager to capture Mr. Pol Pot. 73, who has led the Khmer Rouge for more than 30 years, and to bring him to trial before an international tribunal for crimes against humanity. Maintaining Thailand's cooperation is a delicate diplomatic challenge for the Americans.

There is evidence of the Khmer Rouge's close relationship with Thailand in Mr. Ta Mok's empty house here: Two calendars issued by Thai Bank hang on his walls. But apart from the calendars, Mr. Ta Mok's two-story cement house, with its large underground bunker and radio tower, has been stripped of almost all its furnishings.

Government soldiers have chalked a skull and crossbones on the door to his bedroom — a small, stuffy room with a tile floor, unfinished wood

For years the Khmer Rouge leadership held chief of staff of the Cambodian Army, asserted That village, at a heavily patrolled crossing point, walls and one small window with a broken screen. Like the condition of the house, the surrounding village is barren, bare, hot and nor empty, surrounded by parched, broken carri There are few trees. Nobody seems to have planted gardens here.

■ Foreign Diplomats Visit Anlong Veng

Foreign diplomats toured Anlong Veng on Tuesday as the Cambodian government dicted the guerrilla movement was on the brink of collapse, Agence France-Presse reported.

"It was absolutely fascinating," a Western diplomat said, adding. "According to the military, it looks like this whole thing could be

wrapped up in just a few days.

For the third time in three days, senior Cambodian military officers told diplomats they believed Mr. Ta Mok and the rest of the Khiner Rouge hierarchy, including Mr. Pol Pot, had fled to Thailand. But in Bangkok, Thai authorines again denied the allegations.

As the Smog Spreads, Malaysia Acts on Fires

KUALA LUMPUR — Smog from raging fires spurred Malaysia weather expert said the small island to initiate a nationwide drive Tuesday to spot blazes, and the pollution weather as winds pushed in smog prompted Brunei to close schools.

The moves came amid mounting fears that forest and bush fires stoked by dry weather would throw a blanket of acrid smoke over much of Southeast Asia, much as it did last

An official with Indonesia's environment impact agency, Bapedal, said Tuesday that 250,000 hectares (600,000 acres) of forest land had been destroyed in fires that have swept Borneo's East Kalimantan Province since January.

Last year, fires destroyed about 30,000 hectares of the province. Kalimantan at this time is part

of the Wild West, part of a nation without government. like parts of America in the 19th century," En-vironment Minister Juwono Sudarsono was quoted as saying.

Mr. Sudarsono attributed the fires

to the clearing of forests. He said because the government had not paid attention to the cause of the fires, it was as if Kalimantan was a region without government.

The El Niño weather phenom-

enon has cut rainfall over much of Southeast Asia, including Borneo, where Brunei is situated along with Eastern Malaysia and Kalimantan.

Singapore. The haze returned to Singapore at the weekend, and a

from Borneo. Environmental agencies and government officials say plantation companies are mostly to blame for having taken advantage of the dry conditions and poor law enforce-ment to clear forest for palm oil;

rubber and timber plantations. Malaysia began using helicopters and airplanes to spot fires, and officials vowed to put people who start blazes in jail.

Thousands of hectares were reported burning in Sabah state in the eastern region of Borneo, and peat fires emitted smoke from a smaller area near the capital, Kuala Lum-

The air pollutant index has recently remained in the good-to-moderate range for most of Malaysia, but sections of Sarawak and Sabah states in northern Borneo have been covered with smog.

The airport in Kota Kinabalu in Sabah was closed for several hours Monday because of poor visibility. Rain fell on the city Tuesday for the first time in five months, the official Bernama news agency said.

Brunei ordered schools closed as the pollutant standard index reached hazardous levels. For the coming Fires in Indonesia last year sent days, parents were told to call a smog across much of Southeast national hot line or listen to state Asia, prompting health fears across radio each morning to learn if the archipelago and in Malaysia and schools would be closed that day.



Firefighters cutting brush to stop fires spreading near Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

At Pilgrimage's Climax, 10 Million Hindus

HARIDWAR, India - The city of Haridwar was a swirl of saffron, snake charmers and about 10 million Hindu devotees on Tuesday for the climax of a purification ritual in the Ganges River that is one of the world's largest religious gatherings.

Hindus believe that bathing in a sacred river washes away their sins. speeding the way to the end of reincarnations in this world and the attainment of nirvana, or the after-Astrologers, citing a special -

that began Jan. I and ends April

Leeladhar Jaguri, an official spokesman, said 10 million people had bathed in the chilly waters beginning overnight, as many as had come during the first three months of the festival.

The police had at first canceled the traditional processions of sadhus, saffron-clad Hindu holy men, after rival sects clashed over who would bathe first. The police relented after three religious leaders alignment of planets and stars, began a hunger strike in protest, and deemed Tuesday the most auspithe sadhus marched as crowds lining

cious day of the four-month festival their route for miles cheered. No violence was reported.

Mindful of the recent fatal stampede at the hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia, the Uttar Pradesh state authorities made massive security arrangements to avert any violence or

More than 15.000 police and paramilitary troops were deployed, and at least 30 permanent and temporary bridges were erected across the river.

Local officials say the festival was estimated to cost the authorities about 1 billion rupees (\$25 mil-

BRIEFLY

U.S. and India Vow Closer Ties

NEW DELHI — The chief U.S. delegate to the United Nations, Bill Richardson, opened a dialogue Tuesday with India's new Hindu nationalist government, and both sides pledged to work together as countries with global

Mr. Richardson met with Prime Minister Atal Behari Vaipayee and delivered a letter from President Bill Clinton urging closer ties. Mr. Richardson said Washington was seeking a "special relationship." The Indian Foreign Ministry said that Mr. Vajpayee had welcomed the dialogue and "reiterated his commitment to promoting Indo-U.S. understanding and cooperation.

The Indian defense minister, George Fernandes, said Tuesday that India would decide whether to build nucleir arms after a review of defense policy.

Fish Farmers Won't Get Aid

HONG KONG — The Hong Kong government ruled out on Tuesday giving compensation to fish farmers whose stocks have been devastated by a widespread algae

The secretary for economic services, Stephen Ip, said relief funds and low-interest loans would be provided instead. The "red tide," which began in mid-March, has killed 1.500 tons of fish, the equivalent of half the entire amount bred in Hong Kong waters last year.

The government has put farmers losses at 80 million Hong Kong dollars (\$10.3 million). The farmers say their losses are more than three times that amount. (Reuters)

War Women Reject Seoul Offer

SEOUL — The government offered Tuesday to compensate 152 South Korean women who were enslaved in Japanese brothels during World War II, but the women rejected the offer, contending that Japan should pay

Seoul had been set to provide the equivalent of \$27,000 to each victim by early May. It said it would not consult further with the women, who balked after the government dropped a plan to recover the money from Japan. (AP)

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poles, the center tends to disappear or become marginal."

Blood Feuds Draining a Fierce Corner of Albania where vengeance is the ruling passion.

By Jane Perlez

New York Tones Service

months, too afraid to move.

men of the household, includ-

wisps of hair poking out from

banian man in January and

now the dead man's family

has the right, under the still-

-flourishing code, to take re-venge. Their target is one of

The threat is real. Since the

early 1990s, revenge killings have spread among the clans

here, where the precepts of Lek Dukagjin, a 15th-century

chieftain, prize honor and

freedom above honesty, and

kosovo

Dakovica

Tropoje

under his skullcap.

the Sylaj men.

Area of MACE OCCUPY THREE THRE

Oragobi

ALBANIA

OLD TROPOJE. Albania old days. automatic assault Beneath the snow-rifles now -- are valued as splashed escarpments that much as human life: A man protect northern Albania who kills another man and from the outside world and takes his weapon too can be have left life much as it was avenged with the taking of centuries ago. Sylaj family members have been cooped two lives.

"Who knows how many up on their homestead for people have been killed through revenge?" said Man Mulosmani, 64, a clan leader A blood feud, following precepts laid down in a mewho is preaching reconcilidieval canon, hangs over the ation rather than retribution. "Countless, countless, People ing the patriarch, Shaban don't want to report killings to Sylaj, 99, who welcomes vis-Sylaj, 99, who welcomes vis-itors with a two-tooth grin, accused would be protected by the state in prison instead of being available to kill." Mr. Sylaj's son, Chel. 38, shot and killed another Al-

This closed corner of Europe was described by British spies who trekked here on mule and foot during World War II as the wildest physical — and psychological — terrain on the Continent. It is still reached by a precipitous dirt road hacked out of the mountains and a jade-tinted lake that swerves through vertical limestone cliffs and stony land.

For nearly 50 years, the world's most isolated Communist system superficially submerged the customs that decree an eye for an eye and keep women in the lowliest position. But as Enver Hoxha's communism evaporated at the beginning of this decade, so did the temporary covering it provided for ingrained ways of living.

When the Albanian police force and army disintegrated during civil strife last year and the arms depots stashed with assault rifles and mortars sprang open, revenge killings



In Dragobi, Albania, where medieval precepts of vengeance still apply, the Ismaeli family's house is built mainly for defense. The Ismaelis, from left: Musa, 24; Lutzin, 8; Feride, 18; Fearie, 42, and her husband Uke, 48.

skyrocketed. With house- providing protection against more bloodshed. He came is the family of Hatixhe Secaped prisoners in possession of armories, the Tropoje region became off-limits for outsiders, even for govern-ment officials from the capital, Tirana.

The fact that the sparsely settled area is the stronghold of the former president. Sali Berisha, adds to the inability of the new Socialist government to impose order. In some places, like the village of Dragobi, the instability of the past and the present is easy to see.

The limestone house of the Ismaeli family, for example, has narrow slits in the walls. They are ideal for aiming a gun at the outside world while

holds heavily armed and es- anyone who might want to away with no resolution. Intended to regulate mediattack, the family explained. In their living room, a hole in eval life, the Canon of Lek, as der with Kosovo. the wall covered by a sliding it is known, has been perdoor once served as a hiding verted by people to suit their place for their grandfather's own needs. Mr. Mulosmani place for their grandfather's

> ery. Instead of a pistol, the family keeps assault rifles. As hard as Mr. Mulosmani, a retired agronomist with a mediate between feuding families, it is a difficult task. He spent a session crosslegged on the Sylajs' living room floor - a manner bor-

rowed from the Turks who

dominated Albania until 1912

- discussing ways to avert

women keep their embroid-

pistol. Now this is where the said. Now, the lawless society floats between the old cus-

adapt to modernity in the wake of communism. The unchecked violence in shock of white hair, tries to the Tropoje district is combined with extreme poverty. The hospital has been looted so often that robberies have subsided because there is nothing left to steal.

International aid agencies are too frightened to come to

Many families make do with one chicken a week made into broth and served with a plank of hard com- exempt from most feuds and bread. There is no industry and only those families who have men abroad — often as illegal immigrants in Greece or Italy - can make ends meet.

Such families usually spend the first remittances from abroad on a television set. But wealthier families reoff the land.

limi, 42, a teacher in Valbone, a tiny settlement near the bor-

By necessity, Mrs. Selimi is a prudent homemaker. For her 12-year-old daughter, Aurela, and her 7-year-old niece, Viola, she uses milk toms and a state unable to from her cow, makes fetastyle cheese and bakes bread from water and corn in a wood-burning oven. For guests, she serves potatoes and cabbage from her garden.

She and her daughter dress in Western castoffs sold at outdoor markets and keep warm in socks hand-knitted from the wool of their sheep.

When Lek conceived his canon in the mid-15th century, women were held in such low esteem they were were regarded as chattel to do a man's bidding. Today, women still back out of a door in order not to show disrespect to the men in the room.

Under the Communists, Mrs. Selimi was allowed to choose her own husband. But such freedom was unusual main self-sufficient, living even then and is getting rarer now. The old rules of ar-The Ismaelis in Dragobi ranged marriages are back in

BRIEFLY

Backing for Yeltsin's Nominee

MOSCOW — The hard-line opposition's commitment to a confrontation with President Boris Yeltsin began to erode Tuesday as a leading Communist urged Parliament to approve Mr. Yeltsin's candidate for prime minister rather than risk having the assembly disbanded.

Gennadi Seleznyov, speaker of Parliament's lower house, the State Duma, has been a leading critic of Mr. Yeltsin's nominee, Sergei Kiriyenko, 35, who was rejected by lawmakers last week in a first-round vote.

But after meeting with Mr. Yeltsin on Tuesday, Mr. Seleznyov said he would rather approve Mr. Kiriyenko as prime minister than have Mr. Yeltsin dismiss Parliament and call new elections.

Under the constitution, Mr. Yeltsin has the right to dissolve Parliament and call new elections if the Duma rejects his nominee three times. Mr. Kiriyenko's nomination was rejected Friday by a vote of 186 to 143.(AP)

New Attack in 'Cauliflower War'

MORLAIX, France — Cauliflower farmers protesting falling prices blocked Brittany's main highway Tuesday. resuming protests that last week damaged and shut down the region's main railroad.

About 500 cauliflower producers voted unanimously Tuesday afternoon to resume their demonstrations despite an offer by Agriculture Minister Louis le Pensec to organize talks between the farmers and ministry officials.

We refuse the roundtable, "said Jean-Francois Jacob, president of the young farmers' association, demanding direct talks with Mr. Le Pensec.

We hoped for a gesture from the government, and it never came," said Thierry Merret, the farm union leader. In the so-called cauliflower war, the crop's price has fallen below production costs and farmers are seeking higher state subsidies to offset their losses.

Vienna Cardinal Faces Seclusion

VIENNA - The disgraced former archbishop of Vienna. Hans Hermann Groer, is being sent into monastic seclusion abroad, the Austrian Roman Catholic Church's press agency said Tuesday.

Monsignor Groer 'will no longer appear as bishop or cardinal and will be sent to a foreign monastery." Kathpress said in a statement.

The move, ahead of Pope John Paul II's visit to Austria in June, followed an appeal by Austrian bishops for the Vatican to rule on allegations that Monsignor Groer, now 78, had sexually abused several monks.

Earlier Tuesday, Monsignor Groer said he would be willing to resign his church duties if the Pope wanted him

Bosnian Serbs Deny War Crimes

THE HAGUE - Two Bosnian Serbs who formerly worked as prison-camp commanders pleaded not guilty Tuesday to charges that they were responsible for atrocities committed against Muslims and Croats held at the Serbian-run Omarska camp during the Bosnian war.

Miroslav Kvocka, 41 and Mladen Radic, 45, who surrendered to NATO-led peacekeepers in Bosnia last Wednesday, appeared at a preliminary hearing of the United Nations criminal tribunal for Yugoslavia.

court in New Orleans has all but put an taxes, penalties and interest. Their former lawyer, John Torigian, The medieval artworks, said to be sold the artworks in 1990 to a team of end to the prosecution of two Texans and their lawyer on charges that they trafworth at least \$200 million, were stolen European art dealers, who in turn sold from their hiding place in a cave outside them to Germany. Mr. Meador and Ms.

By William H. Honan New York Times Service

NEW YORK - A federal appeals ficked in stolen property in their efforts to sell artwork taken from Germany after

The Texans, Jack Meador, 78, and

Jane Meador Cook, 64, the heirs of the brother and sister of Joe Tom Meador, to pay more then \$50 million in estate in Quedlinburg.

Court Voids Charges Against Heirs of Art Thief

Quedlinburg in central Germany in the Cook were paid a total of \$2.75 million closing days of the war.

Mr. Meador and Ms. Cook are the percent commission.

man who stole the artworks, known as who, as an army lieutenant, stole 12 the Quedlinburg treasure, may still have treasures when he happened upon them

for the treasures, Mr. Torigian earned a 5

are one such family. Another vogue, she said.

The International Herald Tribune will produce a Special Report on May 2, on

EUROPE, THE EURO



and You

N MAY 2, European Prime Ministers and Finance Ministers will meet in Brussels to set the seal on one of the most daring and farreaching monetary experiments in history - European economic and monetary union. At that meeting, up to 11 nations will be selected as founding members of EMU and they will agree to replace their national currencies with a single, new currency - the euro - and hand over their monetary policies to a new European Central Bank.

It will happen gradually, with the transition beginning on January 1, 1999, and completed by 2002. The move will further consolidate Europe's single market, allowing nearly 300 million consumers to buy goods and services anywhere they please, paying with the new currency.

This Special Report will bring together the following IHT correspondents to offer you the most up-to-date and useful news, background and analysis on this extraordinary new turn in European history:

> Tom Buerkle Joseph Fitchett Alan Friedman Carl Gewirtz

Barry James John Schmid John Vinocur

Whatever one's views, the reality of economic and monetary union beginning in January is apt to set in motion a new dynamic that contains surprises for everyone.

You have heard a lot from the politicians, but to help you get your own, independent grip on Europe's new reality, don't miss this Special Report on May 2, the day the crucial summit gets under way.

For a complete synopsis and information on advertising, contact your local representative or Bill Mahder at the IHT in Paris at: +33 1 41 43 93 78; fax: +33 1 41 43 92 13 or e-mail: supplements@iht.com



THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Megret, National Front's No. 2, Says Party Is Destined to Govern varive parties will "continue to retreat "We think the Europe being built is By Marlise Simons and implode. New York Times Service

On French Far Right, a Subtler Brain

PARIS — For the French, the face and voice of the far right have long been those of Jean-Marie Le Pen, the blustery former paratrooper who, 25 years ago, founded the National Front. But the brain that quietly devised the maneuvers that convulsed French politics recently

belongs to Bruno Megret.

The two men could not be more dif-

Whereas the large and stout Mr. Le Pen thrives on melodrama and pours scorn on mainstream politicians, the slight Mr. Megret goes out of his way to sound reasonable and amenable to compromise. Whereas Mr. Le Pen can rouse people like a preacher, Mr. Megret's language is precise and professorial.

But although he sometimes gives the impression that he disapproves of outrageous tactics and of scaring people off with heated oratory. Mr. Megret, 49, the second-ranking member of the National Front, plays down any substantive differences he may have with his boss. And like Mr. Le Pen, he firmly believes that the National Front is destined to gov-

Last week, Mr. Megret gloated over the poor performance of the two main rightist parties in regional elections and cheerfully predicted more upheaval in the establishment. In his view, that will include the implosion of the current

political center. France now has three political poles." he said, citing the left, the moderate right and the far-right National That means we are in an unstable system. When there are three

With unwavering confidence, Mr. Megret added that France's traditional right would have to divide into two camps: one that opposed the National this does not happen, Mr. Megret predicted, the country's two main conser-

Presenting the National Front as a

pivot point of French politics is still excessive for a party that in the last few been trying hard to rid the Front of its years has garnered only 15 percent of the negative labels: racist, anti-Semitic, has sounded a little less extravagant.

In March, elections for regional assemblies splintered votes in such a way that the National Front minority held the balance of power in five of France's 22 regions. Five members of the conservative Union for French Democracy accepted National Front votes to hold on to five then resigned under pressure from their party, but three refused.

In Paris, furious party bosses branded the alliance between their local officials and the National Front a pact with the devil and expelled the three rebels. The Megret clearly hopes it will continue to work to his party's advantage.

"I am very optimistic about the growth of the National Front," he said. All this turmoil has put the spotlight on him. He appears well placed to rattle the moderate right, since he comes from its ranks. A career civil servant, he broke with the Gaullists in 1985 and joined the National Front. More than Mr. Le Pen, Mr. Megret has of late taken on the role

of articulating the party's ideas. Last week talking with a group of foreign correspondents, he gave the most detailed description yet of how a National Front government would dis-

rupt the European Union. Outlining a four-point plan, Mr. Megret said the Front would first revise the French Constitution so that European law would no longer prevail over French law. Then it would challenge single European currency, which is set to go into effect next year.

Third, it would re-establish strict borthe customs union and impose a 10 per-

doomed because it is an institutional imbroglio," he said. Mr. Megret, the polite strategist, has

vote nationwide. But in recent weeks it xenophobic. Individual members may have slipped up in their language, he acknowledged, but the Front, as a party. condemns racism, anti-Semitism and authoritarian regimes," and rejects "the

still, he said, the party "refuses to be politically correct." Without it France would be a place of "totalitarian contheir assembly presidencies. Two of the formity," where "everyone would say the same thing about everything. By its very existence, the Front maintains diversity and freedom of expression."

In the town of Vitrolles, where his wife, Catherine, is mayor but he is the real political force, diversity is not necinfighting is far from over, and Mr. essarily the norm. Mrs. Megret announced earlier this year that the town would pay a bonus of 5,000 francs (\$800) for every new baby, but only if the parents were European in origin. After the first payment the policy was put on hold; regional authorities challenged it as discriminatory.

■ More Turmoil on the Right Two founders of the Union for French

Democracy quit the group Tuesday in protest over the expulsion of the three members who forged deals with the National Front. Reuters reported.

In the latest sign of disarray on the right, Michel Poniatowski, a former interior minister, and Alain Griotteray, mayor of Charenton, wrote a joint letter of resignation highly critical of the party leader, Francois Leotard.

"You have banned from the UDF three regional chairmen who are ex-France's participation in the euro, the cellent republicans and democrats and above all suspicion." the letter said.

Mr. Poniatowski and Mr. Griotteray said that by spurning the National Front, camps: one that opposed the validation of the Front and one that made deals with it. If the customs union and imposed the validation of the statement of the customs union and imposed the validation of the valid traying" UDF voters.

Mafia Leader Arrested Near Palermo

By Vera Haller Washington Post Service

ROME - The police announced Tuesday that they had arrested Italy's second-most-wanted Mafia fugitive, reputedly the heir to Sicily's organized

Vitale, 39, and he was said to have also were arrested. Mr. Vitale was held The suspect was identified as Vito crime network. consolidated power over clans in and around the Sicilian capital, Palermo. Palermo's police chief, Antonio Man-

ardo Provenzano. A fugitive for more protégé of Leoluca Bagarella, a Mafia than three decades. Mr. Provenzano is boss who was arrested in 1995. elderly and believed to be in poor health. The chief said that Mr. Vitale was seized Tuesday in a farmhouse under construction in the countryside south of

Palermo. The owner of the farmhouse and another man there at the time of the mid

other charges dating from 1995. According to investigators, Mr. Vitale Press reported from Rome. Faiermo s ponce cruer, remonto rose quickly up the Mafia power strucbanelli, said that Mr. Vitale was the most ture in large part because he was the Francesco Delfino. 60.

Mr. Vitale was said to have also had the support of the "boss of bosses." Salvatore Riina, who was arrested in 1993 after 23 years on the run.

■ Police Official Is Held

One of Italy's most decorated police officials was arrested Tuesday for allegedly extorting money from the family of a kidnapping victim, The Associated

He was identified as General

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITE! Continue.

INTERNATIONAL

Nine IRA Convicts Released By Dublin

By James F. Clarity New York Times Service

DUBLIN — Irish officials said Tueswho were serving prison terms for tertorist offenses.

The release was widely seen as support for Gerry Adams, the president of Adams must defend his decision to ap-

Freedom for IRA inmates — whom Sinn Fein calls "political prisoners," but whom the Irish and British gov-ernments consider felons convicted of

Clashes Erupt In Tehran **Over Mayor**

TEHRAN — At least four people were injured when supporters of Tehran's embattled mayor clashed with Islamic hard-liners at the Interior Ministry here Tuesday.

The violence erupted after a speech by Faezeh Hashemi, daughter of former President Hashemi Rafsaniani, in support of the mayor, Gholam-Hossein Karbaschi, witnesses said. Mr. Karbaschi was arrested April 4 on corruption

charges.
Witnesses said that at least four people were beaten by ministry se-curity guards and 10 were arrested.

The clashes began when a mem-ber of a hard-line Islamic group hostile to the mayor and other moderates in President Mohammed Khatami's government asked Miss Hashemi a question that angered the audience.

Mr. Karbaschi's supporters attacked fundamentalists in the crowd of about 2,000 to 3,000 people that had gathered to hear Miss Hashemi. The Interior Ministry has organized an exhibition lauding the mayor's

Miss Hashemi, a moderate member of Parliament, rejected the charges of corruption against Mr. Karbaschi that led to the mayor's

Earlier Tuesday, the police dispersed a group of 300 students demonstrating in front of Tehran University in support of the mayor. ■ U.S. to Broadcast in Persian

U.S. officials said Tuesday that the Clinton administration, under pressure from Senate Republicans. dio service to beam anti-government propaganda into Iran, The New York Times reported from Washington.

Both the White House and State Department had argued that such a move ran counter to the administration's strategy of trying to find small gestures that would bolster Mr. Khatami's standing and even move Iran's leadership to accept direct talks with the United States.

Under an emerging agreement with Congress, which passed legislation last year to create the radio service, the administration will give Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty \$900,000 to begin the project.

The Associated Press

LONDON - Sir Ian MacGregor, a

the power of Britain's unions in the mid-

1980s, died Sunday at age 85, family

heart attack while staying with friends in

Thatcher said Sir Ian "brought a breath

Court Refuses to Free

The Associated Press

YAOUNDE, Cameroon - An ap-

peals court refused Tuesday to overturn

the conviction of an opposition news-paper editor but reduced his sentence

Pius Njawe, editor of the weekly

French-language Le Messager, was sen-

tenced to jail and fined earlier this year

for erroneously reporting that the Cam-eroon president, Paul Biya, had heart

The appeals court judge also reduced the fine from about \$800 to \$500.

Mr. Njawe's case sparked outrage

among international human rights and

press watchdogs, who have called for

his immediate and unconditional re-

Editor in Cameroon

from two years to one.

Former Prime Minister Margaret

Sir lan's career was marked by stints in

Somerset, southwestern England.

of fresh air to British industry.

The former National Coal Board chair-

friends said.

Sir Ian MacGregor, 85, Dies;

Broke Power of U.K. Unions

Scottish industrialist who helped crush a state British Steel Corp., where he gained

yearlong coal miners' strike and break a reputation as a tough manager by cut-

man, who lived in Bermuda, suffered a tract talks broke down. Lady Thatcher

Last year, the Supreme Court of Cam- and television detective Paul Temple. eroon ordered Mr. Njawe's early release died Saturday in Barnes, England, fol-

from prison on another charge. He had lowing a long illness. The Paul Temple

been sentenced to six months in prison adventures ran for three decades on BBC

for libeling Mr. Biya and the National radio, starting in 1938, and made their

but in Britain."

such crimes as murder, arms running, and attacks on police that wounded or killed civilians — is a major concern for Republicans. Some Republicans oppose day that the government had released Mr. Adams as a traitor to the cause nine Irish Republican Army convicts because he failed in the peace talks to gain a united Ireland, run from Dublin and free of British control.

Hard-line Protestant leaders, like the Reverend Ian Paisley, have already the IRA's political wing, Sinn Fein, as he seized upon the issue of the prisoners, faces internal opposition to the peace saying the agreement will free terrorists agreement reached last week. Mr. to restart the guerrilla war. The agreement envisions the early release of paraprove the agreement at a conference of his party in Dublin this weekend.

military prisoners, both Catholic and Protestant, within two years.

If a substantial number of Mr. Adams's party members opposed the agreement, it would weaken support for it in the referendum. But, more significantly, it would increase fears that the dissidents would join or help violent

splinter groups.

The IRA is observing a cease-fire it called in July, though many officials say IRA guerrillas have helped splinter groups in attacks in recent months.

Irish officials said the prisoner release was in keeping with the spirit of the historic agreement signed Friday for a new political structure in the British province of Northern Ireland.

The new structure, to be put to referendums on May 22 in the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic Irish Republic and in the mostly Protestant North, would give the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland more political power and increase the influence of the Irish Republic in northern affairs. But it assures the Protestant majority that there will be no united Ireland unless it is approved by a majority, which is not likely to happen until well into the new

As politicians began the campaign for and against the agreement on the first day after the Easter weekend, the issue of prisoners stirred an energetic dispute. Fifty IRA prisoners were being held at the prison at Portlaoise, west of Dublin. Last year, to speed up the peace effort, Ireland released 11 prisoners early.

About 250 IRA prisoners are in Brit-ish jails in the North or on the British mainland. There was no indication Tuesday of an early release for any of them.

Also surfacing as an issue Tuesday was a suggested visit to Northern Ireland by President Bill Clinton. Last week, after the agreement was approved, the George Mitchell, a former U.S. senator who was chairman of the peace talks, said Mr. Clinton might visit the North to help win approval in the referendum.

The president said he would only visit if invited by Prime Ministers Tony Blair of Britain and Bertie Ahern of Ireland. Catholic leaders, like John Hume, one of the authors of the peace effort that led to the new agreement, said Mr. Clinton Reverend Paisley's son, Ian Jr., said Mr. KOREA: would be welcome and helpful. But the Clinton would not be welcome.

Extreme supporters of British rule. Searching for Family which stayed out of the peace talks and plans to begin a campaign for a no vote, sharply oppose a visit by Mr. Clinton, Reuters reported from Belfast.

["The people of Northern Ireland are more than capable of making up their own minds about the deal." Nigel Dodds of the Democratic Unionists said. "Clinton's suggested visit would clearly be aimed and used as a propaganda drive

for a yes vote."] John Taylor, deputy leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, which helped forge the deal, said that while Mr. Clinton was generally welcome in the North, which he visited in December 1995, a visit before the May vote "could be seen as American interference in the affairs of the U.K."

both the British and U.S. steel industries.

In 1980, he was named chairman of the

ting 100,000 jobs to reduce costs. In March 1984, shortly after becom-

ing chairman of the National Coal

Board, miners began a strike after con-

and Sir Ian remained firm, buying cheap

foreign coal, and the strike collapsed

Mick McGahey, a former leader of

Scottish miners, said Sunday that Lady

Thatcher had appointed Sir Ian "to de-

stroy trade unionism not only in mining,

Sir Ian was knighted in 1986.

Alex Ritchie, 52, Balloonist

crash-dive, died Saturday in London.

according to The Associated Press.

son, the British entrepreneur.

television debut in 1968.

a balloon sponsored by Richard Bran-

Francis Durbridge, 85, TV Writer

bridge, 85, creator of the popular radio

LONDON (AP) - Francis Dur-

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, head of the truth panel, after the Botha trial was adjourned Tuesday.

Prosecutor Sets Deadline for Botha

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RAQ: Report to 1 N Grissis

GEORGE. South Africa - The chief prosecutor in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's case against former President Piete W. Botha has set a deadline of 8 A.M. Wednesday for opposing lawyers to strike a deal that would halt the case.

The state prosecutor, Bruce Morrison, told the court after hours of intensive discussions during an adjournment Tuesday that the parties were 'very close to reaching an agreement' but had not yet struck a deal.

He said Attorney General Frank Kahn has made it clear that unless the parties reach agreement by 8 A.M. the matter will proceed."

The imposition of a deadline came after hours

of talks between lawyers for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the 82-year-old-

apartheid-era hard-liner. Mr. Botha went on trial earlier Tuesday for refusing to testify before the commission, which is investigating human rights abuses committed during the apartheid era.

But when the case was adjourned for further discussion after only 10 minutes, it appeared likely that a compromise would be reached that would allow Mr. Botha to give testimony before a specially arranged commission hearing, in return, the case would be dropped.

DEFENSE: Could Europe's Many National Weapons Makers Make a United Stand?

Continued from Page 1

pean Aerospace & Defense Co." — that would resemble a U.S. defense leader in making aircraft, helicopters, missiles and other kinds of weapons. The other is to group producers of the

same categories of weapons into stand-alone operations — using the "Airbus template" in which the consortium's partners are moving to pool their airliner work under a single management.

For the moment, the report concluded, Europe is not ready to move on either option — and delay would be the worst outcome of all, according to analysts.
For the United States, Europe's quan-

dary is alarming, according to a Pentagon-based admiral who recently visited European capitals to discuss the problem. Not even U.S. defense companies can expect to profit in the long run. regardless of the short-term opportunities, he said, if their European counterparts head into a dead end.

The result, quickly, would be stiffer European protectionism, blocking U.S. access to European markets and causing bad blood in Washington, damaging NATO and poisoning the trans-Atlantic security relationship.
Strategically, Washington would find

itself pulling away faster than ever from its European allies. Indeed, the admiral said, Éuropean governments must consolidate their defense industries quickly to fully enter the era of heavily computerized warfare that is already

revolutionizing U.S. military forces.

The problems are deeply rooted in Europe, however. Defense industries state-run Aerospatiale, Matra of France, over the last few years across Europe.

Alenia of Italy and some smaller Europe.

Britain and Germany have consolidated their defense work in the hands of have historically been a special case in most countries' economies, often functioning virtually as extensions of the armed services that are their prime customers. But in Europe, they have actually

been run by the owner governments.

Since the Cold War's end, however, they have become more like ordinary industries, striving to contain costs, retrenching as markets dwindle, seeking overseas outlets and attracting big investments to fund the increasingly expensive research and development for new products, including armaments.

The situation seems ripe, the aerospace report said, for massive U.S.style consolidation. In Europe, megamergers pose enormous problems because they raise all the cultural tensions that arise in cross-border deals. But they offer a double bounce if they come off: Besides rationalizing produc-

as multinationals would have guaranteed access to all of Europe's oncerestricted national markets. Industrialists have already identified the building blocks of a single monolith.

tified several of these zones, including: A missile-maker. It would be forged

• A defense-electronics giant. This would combine the French giant, Thomson; another giant, General Electric of Britain, Matra and Daimler-Benz. On Tuesday, Thomson was expected to announce terms of its alliance with Dassanlt Electronique, part of a larger plan to regroup French defense elec-tronics activities, including those of Aerospatiale and Alcatel Alsthorn.

 An aerospace company. The crown ewel, this sector would group three of Europe's top prime defense contractors: British Aerospace, Daimler-Benz and Aerospatiale, along with the combat aircraft division of Dassault, the privately owned maker of the Mirage and Rafale fighters. Quick to join would be Alenia, probably Saab of Sweden and smaller companies from Spain and elsewhere.

Consolidating Europe's defense work into a single European company for each category of weapons would rationalize tion, the stronger companies that emerge the industry and make it globally com-petitive, but it would also involve cutting jobs, relocating facilities and negotiating trade-offs at a European level. To salve the key sectors that could be stand-alone national feelings, each industry would pan-European manufacturers as well as need to keep a headquarters, research and development labs and some manufacturing in each country, analysts say.

The aerospace report, sources said, iden-Despite the lumbering pace in some countries, especially France, the old

a few companies, and smaller countries have closed down their industries or sold them, in most case to British companies, which have been aggressive about acquisitions in defens

In Britain, British Aerospace and GEC-Marconi, the defense electronics giant, have absorbed their domestic competitors, including such companies as erranti that were once household names For several years, they have been buying up or taking control of companies in other European countries. For example, the state-owned Finmeccanics of Italy last month made the defense electronics min of Alenia part of a \$1 billion joint venture with General Electric.

Germany has consolidated its aerospace work — military and civil aircraft helicopters, missiles and satellites - into Daimler-Benz Aerospace, which digested all of the government's holdings. The company tried its wings by taking over Fokker, the troubled Dutch planemaker, but the venture crashed amid recriminations about the German giant's lack of technical know-how and inability to meld the companies' business cultures.

France, in contrast, still has two or more companies where its rivals have cut back to one or none. Defense electronics are made by Thomson-CSF. The stateowned giant was recently privatized after a botched first attempt and is owned by that has always had very close ties to French politicians, and by Matra, a private company that has been unusually open to joint ventures with other European companies. French aircraft come from Dassault and state-owned Aerospatiale,

Aerospace is the centerpiece of the defense puzzle, industrialists say, because of the companies' size and visibility. The spotlight is already on this sector because of Airbus, which is to become a standalone company with its own management. Success in that reorganization will bring closer a merger of all Europe's aviation manufacturing — bringing com-

bat and civil work under one roof. That would enable Airbus to match Boeing's hopes of getting savings and technological synergies in its own commercial work and the military contracts it acquired in buying McDonnell Douglas.

But Airbus could be buffeted if the wider defense industry fails to mate

Signs that European defense industries are stumbling have prompted Lock-heed Martin and Boeing to invite European companies to join in the new U.S. joint strike fighter or other ventures in which they could be subcontractors, a campaign that alarms many Europeans.

Accusing the United States of seeking global dominance in defense technologies, Mr. Bischoff of Daimler-Benz Aerospace warned in an unusually outspoken speech in February in Munich that time was running out for Germany and neighboring countries to produce a design for "Europeanization" of both defense and defense policy.

If governments cannot deliver. Europe's defense industry will trans-form anyway, he said, but in that case the transformation will take place only between European private-sector companies, or trans-Atlantic alliances

will be formed,

AGNELLI: Patriarch and Magnate Shrugs Off the Years as He Views a Reforming Italy

Continued from Page 1

NEW YORK (NYT) - Alex Ritchie, Mikhail Gorbachev? "Such a nice man, 52, a British balloonist who clambered and he's in such difficulty." Fidel Castro? "He's very bourgeois. He speaks a good French, a little English, atop an airborne balloon's gondola last year to jettison fuel tanks, halting a but if you talk to him about anything The cause of death was injuries he serious, it's pure Marxism.

sustained in January in a skydiving ac-Now, as Italy celebrates its admission cident after his parachute failed to open. last month into the elite club of Europe's pending monetary union, Mr. Agnelli In the ballooning incident, which oc-curred in January 1997, Mr. Ritchie was and the business world he has long represented are facing a big change. The old way of doing business in Italy part of a crew trying to circle the globe in

was through closed-door deals among a few powerful families, masterminded by secretive Milan-based investment bank that served as their personal broker. Even before the coming of the euro, as the new European currency is called. that system was dying out.

But pressures are increasing for the creation of a market that is even more open, more competitive and, ultimately, less tied to the fortunes of the Agnellis and Italy's other great quasi-feudal families.

French, Mr. Agnelli himself is more outward-looking than many of his peers. Yet his family company, through its principal holding company, IFI, has also been the linchpin of the close-knit network of Italian capital that for decades has been bound together by Mediobanca of Milan. Unlike some in that circle, Mr. Ag-

nelli has never been the least bit ambiguous about his stand on Italy's joining the euro. 'I was personally in favor of a single

currency and always believed that it would happen, even in the darkest days," he said. Had Italy failed to make the grade, he said, the result would have been a "tragedy - a terrible thing for the morale of Italians psychologically.

"You have to look at what has been done in Italy between 1992 and today," he said, "Now, it is one of the Continental European countries which are joining the same goal. Then, we were in trouble."

Joining the European currency - and

sent Italy into public mourning last December, was the first to signal publiely the family's readiness to shift with the times. In an interview in 1996, he spoke of the coming "generational change" that was necessary.

Within days of the younger Mr. Agnelli's death, his family assured its fugovernment, for the country and for the ture place in the automaker Fiat, where it controls 33 percent of the shares, with the nomination of John Elkann, the 22daughter. Margerita, to its board.

"I think he has all the qualifications to be a helpful person, said Mr. Agnelli, As the most cosmopolitan of Italian by extension, the Continent's ambitions has been passed over in the succession.

Mr. Agnelli credits successive Italian dards — trimming the national budget deficit, cutting social spending and privatizing Italy's large state sector. With its recent purchase of 0.6 percent of the shares of Telecom, the Italian telephone company, the Agnelli family. through IFI, showed its readiness to be a player in the next phase of capitalism-

There was a reaction in the way that

people say we've got too much, "he said. whose own 44-year-old son, Eduardo, at problems, and at running things, think they trust us more than others.

from sections of British Aerospace, stable of defense companies, often state-Daimler-Benz Aerospace, the French owned, has been severely winnowed Dassault, the plane and avionics maker missiles from Aerospatiale and Maira.

Continued from Page 1 Millions more have some relatives,

including distant cousins, in the North. Mr. Cho helped found a private group that sifts through North Korean newspapers and any other available sources to try to track relatives of South Koreans. For decades, Mr. Cho tried to find out

something about his family. He presumed his relatives had moved from the rather grand home in which he had grown up because his father had been a well-off landowner.

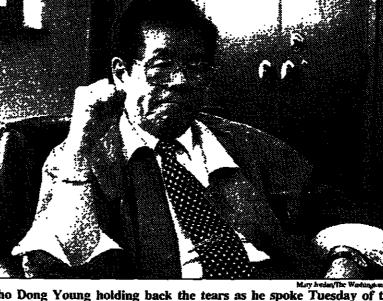
Being able to see family is a right that everyone in the world has except here in Korea," he said. "It's indescribable the pain, the tragedy of waiting for so long in the hopes of seeing your own family.

President Kim Dae Jung's willingness to engage the North since his election in December is a large part of the reason there is new optimism that families will be able to communicate with relatives soon, and perhaps even see them.

As always, there is skepticism about North Korean intentions. Several times in the past Pyongyang has said it would allow asked for help in finding his family. family visits and then at the last moment insisted on a demand that killed the deal.

Mr. Cho said it once demanded that Seoul broadcast a Communist drama called "Blood Sea," knowing the South Koreans would refuse. In 1985, 50 relatives from each side visited one another, but the visits were stopped without ex-

Time is running out for old men such as Mr. Cho, and as they age, their requests are becoming more insistent. What I want to tell the world is that



Cho Dong Young holding back the tears as he spoke Tuesday of the family he had not heard from since leaving North Korea 51 years ago.

people like me are getting old, and they the China-North Korea border for 15 deserve to see their loved ones before days as he tried to arrange for his son to they die," Mr. Cho said.

As he spoke, an 82-year man walked into his group's office in Seoul and "I want to see my son," he said. When the Korean War started in 1950,

the man said, he fled to the South, along with millions of other men who feared being shot, imprisoned or rounded up for man, said he had seen a photo of his son military service. He left behind his preg-nant wife and 6-year-old son.

"I hoped I would be able to go back and see them in a week," he said. Instead, his wife died, apparently from lack of food, before she delivered the child. He has received letters from his son via China. He once waited along The man, who asked not to be iden-

tified, said many South Koreans who hope to smuggle out their relatives or contact them through third parties hide their identities for fear that Pyongyang will punish their relatives. The father, a retired electronics sales-

as a grown man in which the son appeared tall but weighed only about 45 kilograms (100 pounds). He said all he can imagine is that the happy little boy of his memories is now sick, hungry and needing him.

'It is tearing my heart apart," he said. "I need to see him before I die."

businessmen, with flawless English and to compete successfully on a shrinking In the meantime, Fiat has announced world stage - will put more pressure on the retirement this June of its longtime chairman, Cesare Romiti, the rough-Italy, Mr. Agnelli said. "Now we start," talking businessman who restored the he said. "Italy will have to engage with strong partners in a difficult battle. company's fortunes in the 1970s, and his replacement by Paolo Fresco, a vice We've got to reform a lot of the oldfashioned way of doing things." chairman of General Electric Co. Mr. Agnelli's nephew and designated successor, Giovanni Alberto Agnelli, whose death from cancer at the age of 33 governments with making the enormous efforts required to meet the euro's stan-

That investment once again brought criticism about the long arm of the Ag-nellis. But it is criticism that Mr. Agnelli year-old son of the elder Mr. Agnelli's brushes off with an airy noblesse oblige-

But on the whole, in the way of looking 🦸

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Prosecutor Sets Deadline for Boy

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The imposition of a deading canadal of takes between lawyers for the India. coscillation Commission and the so-

cused almost exclusively on Middle parties error and earlier Teacher Teac Eastern countries with which the Mr. Boins were to dies after the printing to testably before the community to make the against the above the structure. United States has hostile relations. The stockpiles and suspected testing programs of Israel and Egypt, the closest U.S. allies in the region, at-

tract barely a mention. Administration officials say they important Arab states and feeding a tries and waters of the Gulf.

publicly address the countries they are the most worried about - with irag at the top of the list — and that highlighting Israel and Egypt would only hinder Washington's ability to CIA reports, used televised props sign a peace accord that would open get those countries to eventually the door to serious disarmament discussions.

"Naturally we're most concerned about the threat from rogue regimes," said Gary Samore, special assistant to the president and senior director for nonproliferation at the National Security Council, "but the United States also supports universal adherence to the international nonproliferation treaties."

Other arms control experts, however, contend that the United States, by its selective warnings, is undermining its credibility among

cycle of suspicion that has accoming the arms race in the Middle

U.S. Alarm on Germ and Chemical Arms Skips 2 Allies

"It diminishes the authority we might bring to this area," said Michael Moodie, president of the Chemical and Biological Arms Control Institute and a former assistant director at the U.S. Arms sentence or two to Egypt. Control and Disarmament Agency. We have to find a way to talk about

all the programs." The Middle East draws particular scrutiny because it has the world's capable of chemical warfare, and beto Americans abroad. About 37,000 biological ones as well. U.S. troops are stationed in the coun-

panied other failed attempts at slow- most authoritative public reports on chemical weapons programs, the subject - the Defense Department's 1997 proliferation study, the CIA's June 1997 report on technology acquisition and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency's both Egypt and Israel are "suspeclast annual report in 1996 - fail to ted biological weapons prolifermention Israel and devote only a ants."

who declined to be named at the Defense Department, the National Security Council and other U.S. inhighest concentration of countries telligence sources, as well as assessments published by private orcause no other region combines ten- ganizations, show that both sions and the proliferation of these weapons with such concrete threats weapons with such concrete threats programs and are believed to have arms when it dropped bombs filled

One defense intelligence report given limited distribution lists both

But all of the administration's Israel and Egypt as having "active

A handful of research organizations using foreign and U.S. government sources, including the Henry L. Stimson Center, say that

A once-secret 1990 Defense In-Documents with limited circula- telligence Agency report, obtained tion and interviews with officials through the Freedom of Information Act by E. J. Hogendoorn of Human Rights Watch, identifies in a photograph, which is blanked out, an Israeli chemical weapons testing fa-

> Egypt was the region's first counwith phosgene and mustard gas against Yemeni forces in the mid-1960s, according to the Defense Intelligence Agency, and it continues to have a stockpile of agents.

The 1996 Arms Control and Disarmament Agency report says that Egypt developed biological warfare agents by 1972 and that it remains likely that Egypt still has the ca-pability to conduct biological war-

Saudi Arabia, also a U.S. ally, rarely shows up on any government proliferation assessment. Still, government officials acknowledge they suspect it is developing or already has chemical weapons and has Chinese medium-range CSS-2 ballistic missiles that can carry chemical weapons.

Iraq, however, is the only country in the region that is believed to have filled warheads that could be used at a moment's notice with chemical or biological agents.

In the Middle East, proliferation concerns historically have taken a back seat to U.S. efforts to move the peace process along. For this reason, said Seth Carus, a Middle East proliferation specialist at the National Defense University, U.S. officials "will not point the finger at Egypt and Israel, and they are somewhat muted in what they say about Syr-

The stalemate in the Middle East peace effort also is preventing states there from signing treaties aimed at eliminating weapons of mass de-

Egypt, for example, refuses to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention until Israel signs the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which calls for inspections of nuclear facilities and which Israel will not sign. Israel has signed the Chemical Weapons Convention, but the Knesset is unlikely to ratify it.

Momoh Charged With Treason

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone— Sierra Leone's former president, Joseph Saidu Momoh, and 13 others were charged with treason in a Freetown court on Tuesday in connection with a coup last May.

The 13 included a prominent broadcaster and former BBC journalist, Hilton Fyle, and senior members of the Armed Forces Ruling Council that toppled President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah in May. A group of 21 others appeared in the same magistrate's court on April 6 to face the first charges over the coup since Nigerian-led regional troops reinstated Mr. Kabbah from exile in Guinea in

No pleas were taken from the defendants, who were returned to custody until the next scheduled hearing on

Yeltsin and Hashimoto to Meet

TOKYO - President Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan will take their countries' complicated ties a step farther from World War II in a summit meeting that is expected to set the tone, if not the substance, of relations into the next century, analysts said.

When the two statesmen meet in the Japanese resort of Kawana on April 18 and 19, they will be carrying the momentum of improved relations that was set in motion

when they met in Russia in November. But some observers of Japan-Russia diplomacy believe the two sides, while well-meaning in their intention to forge ahead with improved relations, are far apart on key issues such as territorial disputes and Japanese investment in Russia.

A New Pledge in War on Drugs

WASHINGTON — Leaders from across the Americas will agree to let the Organization of American States evaluate their countries' efforts to fight narcotics as part of a new anti-drug alliance, officials said.

The multilateral evaluation system, to be endorsed at

the upcoming Summit of the Americas in Chile, is meant to replace the annual blacklisting by the United States that has caused much ill will in Latin America.

The new system will put as much emphasis on reducing drug consumption in the cities of the United States as it does on attacking production in Latin American fields. "We will make progress at this summit in expanding the multilateral alliance against drugs," said Sandy Berger, President Bill Clinton's national security adviser. (Reuters)

Bolivian Police Hit Coca Plants

LA PAZ — Defying local protesters, hundreds of Bolivian police and soldiers have begun cutting down illegal coca plants in one the world's largest cocaine-

producing regions.

Vice Minister of the Interior Rafael Canedo, who is responsible for the eradication of coca fields, said the government planned to destroy 10,000 hectares (25,000 acres) this year, about a quarter of the country's coca-leaf crop. The security forces moved into several communities and began destroying the plants with machetes. Farmers have opposed the eradication and called for roadblocks and protests against the operation. (Reuters)

Apple Drops Dalai Lama From Asia Ad Campaign

By Mark Landler New York Times Service

By Dana Priest

Washington Post Service

recent showdown with Iraq, the

Clinton administration released

and convened a global town meeting

to drive home the point that chem-

ical and biological weapons repre-

sent a particularly horrifying men-

But in their campaign to make

people aware of the dangers posed

by such weapons, officials have fo-

ace to the world.

WASHINGTON - During the

HONG KONG — Apple Computer Inc., the self-styled rebel of the spokesman in London, who said the U.S. computer industry, has removed images of the Dalai Lama from its advertising campaign here for fear of offending China.

Apple has used Tibet's exiled spiritual leader in an ad campaign in the United States where he appears as one of a series of revolutionary figures drawn from the worlds of politics, academia, culture and business. But the Dalai Lama will be conspicuously absent from Apple's ads in Asia, which will instead feature Muhammad Ali, Mohandas Gandhi, Alfred Hitchcock, Pablo Picasso and Amelia Earhart.

"Where there are political sensitivities, we did not want to offend anyone," said Sue Sara, a spokeswoman for Apple's Asia-Pacific didecide on images that were appropriate across the region."

Ms. Sara said Beijing did not put pressure on Apple to leave the Dalai Lama out of its advertising. But she added, "Our management here is Chinese, so we're pretty aware of

vision in Sydney. "We needed to

The Dalai Lama, who fled Tibet

try, remains a potent symbol of Chinese oppression.

Apple's decision drew a tart re-Tibetan leader had given the company permission to use his image around the world and had not been told about the decision.

"It is unfortunate that they see an advantage in using him selectively," said Tseten Samdup, the spokesman for the Dalai Lama. 'Obviously, it has to do with not offending China, which is such a huge market for them."

In fact, mainland China is currently a tiny market for Apple. It shipped just over 10,000 Macintosh and Notebook computers to the country in 1997, according to Dataquest, a market research firm.

But the overall Chinese market generated 2.2 million shipments of personal computers in 1997, mostly by domestic manufacturers, according to Dataquest. So there is plenty of room for Apple to grow.

Apple has given conflicting re-sponses for its decision not to use the Dalai Lama. A company executive initially said Apple wanted people more recognizable in the region than the Dalai Lama. On Tuesday, Apple acknowledged that its decision had in 1959 after a decade in which little to do with the notoriety of the China annexed his secluded coun- Tibetan leader.



PAWS AND REFRESHMENT—A Syrian brown bear at the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo seeking relief from the heat with a frozen treat on Tuesday, the fourth straight day of temperatures near 35 degrees centigrade (95 degrees Fahrenheit).

IRAQ: Report to UN Claims Saddam Has Executed 1,500 in Past Year

The United States is likely to face

Mr. van der Stoel, who holds the title try since 1992. His survey, completed

Continued from Page 1 Samuel Berger. Mr. Clinton convened

the first hemispheric summit meeting in Miami in December 1994.

Mr. Berger said the president was

countries based on their "quiet revolution," the transition to democratic gov-

If investment of presidential time is an accurate gauge of presidential interest,

Mr. Clinton can fairly claim to be more

involved with Latin America and the

Caribbean than any of his recent pre-

decessors. As Mr. Berger noted, Mr.

Clinton "last year went to Mexico, Cen-

tral America and the Caribbean in May,

and in October went to Venezuela,

At the time of the 1994 gathering in

Miami, Washington was just beginning to celebrate a new era in the Americas in

which authoritarian rule, military dic-

economies were giving way to democ-

racy and economic reform. Large coun-

tries like Brazil and Argentina were leav-

ing behind the era of hyperinflation and

systematic human rights abuses; Central

America was emerging from the brutal civil conflicts of the Cold War era.

few reminders of those painful years. As

wave, although democracy appears

only Cuba remains committed to a cen-

According to the U.S. trade repre-

more than three times as fast as our gency.

sentative, Charlene Barshefsky, the re-

sult has been a burst of economic op-

exports to the rest of the world. During

the second half of 1997, we exported

trally planned economy.

wave, annough and Colombia, and hosting coffee klatches at the presiden-

As Mr. Clinton heads for Chile on Wednesday night, his agenda contains troubles.

Brazil and Argentina.'

ernments and free-market economies.

Continued from Page 1 uments smuggled out of Iraq as well as on information compiled from a number on information compiled from a number of sources by exiled Iraq in opposition of sources by exiled Iraq in prerequisite to the lifting of economic information in Turkey because infor- charged with "maneuvering sanctions that were imposed on Iraq in mation often reaches that country the government.

1990 after the country's invasion of through Iraqi Kurds who live in the Mr. van der Stoel received reports of

border area. The United States is likely to face His report paints a picture of per-pressures in the UN Security Council by sistent persecutions of Kurds, Shiite the end of this month, however, to re- tribes in the southern marshes, Turkoward Iraq for what appears to be a new mans and other ethnic or religious of all political critics or would-be crit-

of United Nations Special Rapporteur on Iraq, has been refused entry to the councutions that Mr. van der Stoel cited were the killings in October of 14 millast month, is based on reports and doc- itary officers and politicians who were

that that implies."

■ It Could Be Worse

When Mr. Clinton sits down with the

countries by the end of the week, many

land investments and his campaign con-

Summit of the Americas probably would

\$6.1 million in campaign donations from

Wasmosy, whose administration has

the Cali drug cartel.

The Associated Press reported.

CLINTON: President to Press Free Trade

to prohibited weapons programs — a groups. Mr. van der Stoel also collected among them three military officers

the executions of army deserters, Islamic activists, Shiite tribe members and people connected with opposition groups that maintain offices in exile including nine people with ties to a spirit of cooperation with arms inspec- groups. It describes a relentless pursuit group called the Iraqi National Council and seven people associated with another group, the Supreme Council for

Islamic Revolution in Iraq.
As with other UN human rights investigators, Mr. van der Stoel guards his sources of information to protect them from retaliation. His work is given considerable credibility by many because he has been reporting on Iraq since the Gulf

'Iraqi law imposes life imprisonment from Congress to negotiate a Free Trade and, in certain cases, death on anyone Area of the Americas, as was agreed to at insulting the president," the report says. the Miami summit meeting.

Congress balked at giving the president that authority, which would have enabled him to negotiate an agreement It notes that the Iraqi government ex-planation is that officials distinguish between criticism and insult, reserving death for the latter. Mr. van der Stoel committed to forging a new relationship subject to congressional approval but said he found this distinction "neither with Latin American and Caribbean not amendment. However, officials said convincing in theory nor reflective of the

negotiations would begin in Santiago factual situation in Iraq."

Membership in political parties not anyway.

"As important as that political decofficially working with the governing laration was in 1994," Ms. Barshefsky said, "the formal launch of these negotiations following three and a half can also bring the death penalty or, in years of preparatory work ensures the some cases, disfigurement. Iraqi thieves years of preparatory work ensures the realization of the Miami vision. may be branded, or limbs may be amputated, or both. In December, Iraq ex-"There will be a free-trade area of the ecuted four Jordanian students who had Americas, a comprehensive launch will smuggled \$850 in auto parts into the be initiated in Santiago along with all

In addition to information about executions, the report detailed a continuing Iraqi policy of forcibly resettling people leaders of 33 other Western Hemisphere belonging to ethnic minorities — especially Kurds and Turkomans in tatorship, arms races and controlled of them would probably would be glad to Kirkuk, north of Baghdad — and of swap their personal problems for his, moving Arabs into that region. Mr. van der Stoel said Arabs were given in-Mr. Clinton has been dealing with centives of money and apartments to settle in Kirkuk.

questions about his sexual behavior, his 'Families who are perceived to be opposed to the regime, families who have relatives outside Iraq or in southern tributions. Some of the leaders at the think that is nothing compared with their Iraq and those who have relatives in detention or executed are said to be the Take President Ernesto Samper of first targets of forced displacement," the Colombia, for example. A larne duck report said. It added that officials from Mr. Berger and outcomes senior of the senior out, only Cuba has never tire of pointing out, only Cuba has never tire of pointing out, only Cuba has never tire of pointing out, only Cuba has heading into his last month in office, he would be delighted to be criticized for move targeted families, often with as something as relatively frivalous as

Iraq has told UN committees that it is fighting a rising crime wave brought on Mr. Samper's popularity ratings have by the economic sanctions. The van der been stuck in single digits since 1994. Stoel report challenges that explanation when evidence surfaced that he took and also criticizes Iraq for not accepting for more than four years a Security Council plan allowing the limited sale of portunity for U.S. business.

Last year, she said, "Our exports to Last year, she said, "Our exports to Last year, and the Caribbean grew Latin America and the Caribbean grew cine. oil to raise money for food and medi-

"Instead, the government of Iraq de-cided to rely only on domestic produc-In Paraguay, coup rumors are sweeping Asuncion as President Juan Carlos tion to meet the humanitarian needs of its people - preferring to let innocent tirety of the European Union.

Mr. Clinton had hoped to go to Santriago armed with "fast track" authority of his party's primary.

Decil accused of corruption and people suffer while the government maneuvered to get sanctions lifted," the report said.



through

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Time for Debt Relief

Bill Clinton went to Africa last month expecting to talk about the benefits of increased trade. He found leaders who wanted to talk about the urgent need for debt relief, and no wonder. For many of the poorest nations of Africa and Latin America, nothing matters more. Many are struggling under a burden of debt so crushing that the aid and trade income they receive simply gets recycled back north in the form of interest payments. Meanwhile, little is left to pay for health, education and other programs that could begin to relieve poverty.

Two years ago the major creditor nations, including the United States, acknowledged the foolishness of this debt service carousel. Together with the World Bank and the IMF, they shaped the first comprehensive program of debt relief for countries that were pursuing reasonable policies likely to produce economic growth. Their plan was hailed as a major break-

through for developing nations.
In practice, results have been modest. Only six countries have been approved for debt relief (four in Africa and two in South America), and only three will actually receive any assistance by the end of this year. Many more countries that badly need help will not be eligible, under the plan's

These criteria include a record of six unbroken years of good economic performance. The impulse behind this condition is right; there is no point in extending aid to regimes that will squander it. But inflexibly making every country wait so long risks missing an opportunity to help countries that really want to help themselves. Many governments dedicated to reduction and economic poverty growth simply will not survive six years without debt relief.

Oxfam International, one of the advocacy groups that has led the fight for debt relief, notes that the international community quickly mobilized more than \$100 billion in credit to ease Asia's financial crisis, but that in Africa -- where the per-country needs often run in the hundreds of millions the political will is missing.

President Clinton says he promised President Nelson Mandela and other African leaders to "see what I could do to make sure that we give as much aid as we possibly can" and "to stay on top of this" once he returned to Washington. This week, with the world's finance ministers in Washington for the annual meetings of the World Bank and the IMF, would be a good time to begin redeeming that promise.

_ THE WASHINGTON POST.

Decline in Ukraine

Last year, Ukraine and Turkmenistan were the only former Soviet republics to see their official economies shrink. Ukraine's steady decline is the main reason why voters abandoned the relatively reformist governing party in parliamentary elections on March 30. The big winner was the Communist Party, a group so troglodyte that it favors "voluntary reunification" with Russia. The vote practically ensures that Ukraine will see none of the reforms that the country needs.

Since its independence in 1991, Ukraine has had some limited economic success, largely thanks to the skill of the central bank governor, Viktor Yushchenko. The inflation rate. 10,000 percent five years ago, is around 10 percent today. About half the economy is now in private hands, compared with 70 percent in Russia.

But privatization has not generated economic growth. Important areas, like agriculture, have yet to be touched. The tax system is arbitrary, burdening legitimate businesses and driving them into the shadow economy. Regulation is stifling - setting up a construction company requires some 50 different licenses, virtually all of which must be accompanied by bribes. President Leonid Kuchma and his allies in the Par-

liament introduced an important package of reforms in 1996, but it died, a victim of the pervasive corruption that is choking modernization and driving away investment.

Ukraine's economy also suffers from the country's uneven progress in democratic reforms. Ukraine is one of a handful of former Soviet republics that have had relatively clean parlia-mentary elections and changed their presidents. Its treatment of national minorities is also good, and it has shown the political maturity to give up its nuclear weapons. But Ukraine's newspapers and especially its television stations are politicized and controlled to the point where they cannot keep an eye on the government.

Ukraine is the fourth-largest recipient of American aid, but that assistance may be cut in half under a misguided new law requiring the administration to certify that the country is making progress on the problems of a few American investors. The World Bank and the IMF should condition their assistance on steps like tax and regulatory reforms designed to speed economic growth. Ukraine's politicians need a clear message that eco-

The Party of Pork

Back when they did not have much power, congressional Republicans were united over the federal budget because they believed in a world defined by a few simple evils: the deficit, spending, taxes, Democrats. But now that they control Congress and are facing surpluses instead of deficits, the party is more divided over budget policy than it has been in a generation. There is confusion about which, if any, tax cuts to favor. Some members have developed a strong taste for pork. Their divisions give President Bill Clinton an upper hand not contemplated a year ago.

Before the Easter recess, Republicans were waging what amounted to a civil war over who could spend more. Their focus was a highway bill loaded with so many embarrassingly porcine projects that Republicans now fear that Mr. Clinton could actually veto it, tagging them as the party of profligacy.

Things got so bad that the champion deficit hawk, John Kasich, chairman of the House Budget Committee, was said to be barely on speaking terms with Bud Shuster, champion of oldfashioned Interstate largesse.

Fights over such issues forced the House to miss the statutory deadline for passing a budget resolution this month. The Senate met the deadline. but only after papering over differences. The budget resolution, for example, called for only \$30 billion in tax cuts, to be paid for by offsets on spending or taxes. It passed, however, only after conservatives were assured by that champion of federal aid for the vitally essential Mississippi shipyards.

Trent Lott, that it did not mean what it said. The majority leader assured them that the package would be much big-ger, apparently to be paid for by revenues from a tobacco settlement.

Republicans are also riven by philosophical disagreements over which tax cuts to pursue. Some want incentives to expand health insurance programs, others a tax break for married couples; still others want to subsidize personal retirement accounts. They are hoping to pay for them from the tobacco settlement or larger than anticipated budget surpluses. Both are problematical, especially now that tobacco companies have rejected the tobacco settlement emerging in the Senate. But the Republicans' discovery of windfall politics shows that the Democrats do not have a monopoly when it comes to inventing miracle cures for budget crises.

Underneath these disputes is a sense of dread among Republicans over the opportunity that their squabbling gives to Mr. Clinton. He has insisted that any budget surplus be set aside not for tax cuts but to shore up the Social Security system in the long-term future.

Republicans also know that at a certain moment they will be under enormous pressure to make some concessions to Mr. Clinton to spend at least a little more money on child care,

bench sniping instead of leadership. -THE NEW YORK TIMES

Herald Eribune

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More Hurdles Ahead for a Remarkable Agreement

DUBLIN — Last Friday's remarkable Belfast Agreement between Northern Ireland parties and the British and Irish governments surprised most people in the two islands. Three decades of violence and failed attempts at settlements had created a mood of almost universal pessimism.

Why were those widespread doubts confounded? A major factor, of course. was the desire of the Sinn Fein/IRA leadership to move from violence to

constitutional politics.

During the 1970s the IRA repudiated politics, pursuing a purely terrorist agenda. However, the boost in support from nationalists that it secured as a result of the disastrous British handling of the 1981 hunger strike tempted it to of the 1901 nunger states the change its strategy by combining politics with terrorism — the new policy of "the Armalite and the ballot box."

By the time of the 1983 British general election, and despite their persist-ence with violence, Sinn Fein had the support of 35 percent of Northern na-tionalists. It seemed set to expand this support to the point where it might replace the constitutional Social Democratic and Labour Party as the largest nationalist party in Northern Ireland.

There were fears that such a success might embolden the IRA to raise its violence to a civil war level, threatening the security of the whole island.

Returning to office in late 1982, after nine months in opposition, I decided in these circumstances that I must abandon, for the time being, fruitless efforts to find agreement with the Unionist politicians of the North, which had always been my preferred approach. Instead I would seek an agreement with Margaret Thatcher that would be designed to reduce the alienation of Northern nationalists, and thus to draw them back from Sinn Fein to support for the constitutional SDLP.

In November 1985 such an agreement was signed. It promised to give

NEW YORK — If the Northern Ireland deal does not have deep

roots, it will be blown away. There are,

though, good reasons to believe that it

arises not from a passing moment but

In 1968, it was possible to see the

war between Irish Catholic nationalism

and Protestant British unionism as a

clash of civilizations. The Republic,

with which Catholics identified, was

still predominantly rural. Northern Ir-

ish Protestants belonged to a strongly

The terms "Irish" and "British"

were shorthand for a great deal more

than national identity. You could use.

them to guess with reasonable accur-

acy what kind of work people did,

whether they used contraceptives (and

how many children they had), what sort

of sports they played. Yet, precisely in

the years of the conflict, this gradually

head in the Republic was just half what

it was in the United Kingdom. And

implicit in the contrast was a belief that

this was not coincidental. As the Prot-

estants saw it, the Irish were poor be-

cause they were Catholic. They were,

in the Protestant imagination, priest-

from some fundamental shifts.

urban and industrial world.

became impossible.

ridden neasants.

By Garret FitzGerald

nationalists a better deal, and for the first time gave the Irish government a 'droit de regard' in Northern Ireland. Nationalist support for Sinn Fein fell back by one-third, to 23 percent.

Years were to pass before it transpired that these events had also had the desired effect of making Sinn Fein/IRA think again about their dual "Armalite"

and ballot box' strategy.
In 1993 it emerged that the Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams had since 1986 been considering a new approach, and had finally been persuaded by his SDLP rival, John Hume, to consider proposing to his IRA colleagues a cessation of violence with a view to a negotiated settlement.

The road to such a negotiation proved to be rocky, initially because of Unionist and British resistance to the idea

Blair's arrival in power changed the whole atmosphere.

of negotiating with Sinn Fein while the IRA wing of the organization retained its arms and explosives. But, despite the breakdown of the cease-fire over this issue, the negotiation eventually got under way, albeit at a snail's pace.

Labour's arrival in power in Britain changed the whole atmosphere. John Major had been prevented from mak-ing progress by his narrow majority in Parliament and his dependence on Unionist votes there, but also by doubts about the support he would receive on this issue within his cabinet. By contrast, Tony Blair has an overwhelming parliamentary majority and is in total command of his cabinet.

All the While, Irish Realities Were Changing

By Fintan O'Toole

Now the Republic has a higher GDP

per capita than Britain. It is a predominantly urban society. The political power of the Catholic Church has been

broken. Catholics, on the whole, use

contraceptives and have the same num-

ber of children as Protestants do. They

are more likely to be making Pentium

While all of this was going on, the once mighty industries of Northern Ire-

land were becoming obsolete. The

shipyards and engineering works that

were still the pride of Protestant Belfast

stable than Irish identity. In 1968, it

Northern Irish Protestants valued -

Kingdom — have lost their glamour.

to collude in a pretense that all of this

change was not happening.
Protestants and Catholics had a mu-

tual interest in the image of the Re-

public as a poor backwater. For Prot-

estants, it served as a warning of what

Yet both sides in the conflict tended

British identity has been no more

in 1968 have long since dwindled.

microchips than growing potatoes.

for Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam had advance notice of her appointment and was able to spend several years reading herself in and getting to know all the

key players personally. The negotiation was also helped by the fact that for the first time in a quarter of a century there had emerged an active groundswell of Unionist support for a settlement. Not alone the Protestant Churches but also the business community and many voluntary bodies pur the Ulster Unionist Party negotiators under powerful pressure to

compromise for peace. Moreover, this time around, strongly led political parties representing the two main working-class loyalist paramil-itary organizations (which in 1974 had brought down a short-lived power-sharing Executive) backed a settlement, actively pushing the much larger middle-class UUP toward compromise.

Finally, a new positive factor this time has been the close involvement of the United States in the whole process. In the past Washington remained detached; and because any potential American involvement was seen as likely to be onesided, favoring the nationalists, that may have been just as well.

But now President Bill Clinton became fully engaged personally. And by showing a strikingly evenhanded approach during his visit to Ireland in 1995 he gained credibility that enabled him, at the joint request of the British and Irish governments, to intervene repeatedly and effectively with both sides during the final sleepless 33 hours of this negotiation.

The agreement negotiated with the help of all those favorable factors is, however, complex, delicately balanced and vulnerable in the months ahead to a range of possible shocks.
This very Wednesday it faces two

A further advantage that the present hurdles. One is a meeting of the Grand

from the British fold and as an excuse

of British perfidy, and proof that Ire-

land could never prosper so long as any part of it remained "unfree."

mighty imperial power suited each of

the warring tribes. For Protestants, it

was a source of pride and comfort. For

Catholics, it suggested that they were

part of the great decolonizing move-

ment of the postwar world. For those in

both communities who sympathized

with the proponents of armed terror, it

lent an aura of epic grandeur to squalid

fect of making people overestimate

their enemies. Catholics and Protest-

that what was happening to it was also

not why it has come now, but why it did

This comment has been taken from

a longer article in The Washington

Post. The writer is a columnist for The

Irish Times in Dublin and the Daily

the real question about the peace d

not come a long time ago.

Violent division has the strange ef-

and intimate cruelties.

For Catholics, it served as evidence

Likewise, the image of Britain as a

for prejudice and discrimination.

British government enjoys has been that, unlike previous secretaries of state to oppose the agreement.

The other is a meeting of the 10 Westminster MPs of David Trimble's UUP, three of whom support the agreement and four of whom oppose it, with the remaining three undeclared. If all three of these last were to vote against it today, they could also move to replace Mr. Trimble as parliamentary party leader. That could greatly weaken his position in Northern Ireland.

Next weekend the agreement mustclear two further hurdles: a Sinn Fein party conference and a meeting of the 800-member Ulster Unionist Council.

Despite the fact that the settlement falls far short of Sinn Fein/IRA objectives, Gerry Adams and his influential colleague, Martin McGuinness, seem confident of persuading both the party and its military wing, the IRA. to accept or at least not oppose the agreement, and to authorize the Sinn Fein leadership to apply it — although this will probably be at the cost of losing some important figures from the party.

By contrast, the UUP leader, Mr.

Trimble, who in fact has a major negotiating success to report, is more delicately placed. He could face a split in his party.

Next, the agreement has to be accepted in separate but simultaneous referendums in the North and South, probably on May 22. The result in the South is not in doubt. In the North, where 42 percent of the voters are nationalists. the agreement will probably be accepted, but it is not certain that a majority of Unionists will vote for it.

If it appeared that Mr. Trimble had not secured the support of a majority of Unionists, this would create difficulties for him in the election to the Assembly several weeks later. In order for the new Northern Ireland Executive to get off the ground, pro-agreement Unionists must secure at least 40 percent of their side's seats in the Assembly.

There remains at least one further obstacle to a successful launch of these new political arrangements. Unionists understandably find it hard to swallow the idea of sharing power in the Executive with Mr. Adams, and perhaps also with Mr. McGuinness.

In the final moments of the negotiation, the UUP delegation nearlyabandoned ship over this issue. It was in fact only after Mr. Blair had given Mr. Trimble a side letter to the effect that Sinn Fein could serve in the Executive only after IRA arms decommissioning had started that Mr. Trimble was persuaded by President Clinton in a final urgent telephone call to sign - at the cost of losing there and then a member of his negotiating team.

As the agreement makes membership of the Executive dependent only on Sinn Fein using "democratic, nonviolent means," and gives it two years to decomission, there is a possibility of confusion and perhaps conflict here. In addition to recalcitrant politicians.

there are also dissident paramilitaries, on both sides, who are determined to wreck this agreement — and they have weapons and explosives.

to go before we can be sure that this agreement is going to give Northern Ireland peace and stability. But there is also a real chance that it will do so.

The writer, a former I rish prime minister, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Four Challenges for the World's Economic Leadership

was still possible to imagine Britain as ants could see that their own com-

an imperial power. The symbols that munities were in flux; neither could see

the monarchy, the empire, the United happening to the other side. In a sense,

WASHINGTON — The currency crises of 1997 Asian countries. They also represent a significant shock for the world economy. Their consequences in Europe and the United States have not been fully felt yet, because liquidity shortages and disorganization have so far hampered the ex-

pansion of East Asian exports. The good news (a fall in commodity prices and a flight to quality assets in financial markets) has thus preceded bad news (a trade shock and finan-

cial losses). With the recovery in Europe schools and the environment.

The world of surpluses has, in short, turned politics in Washington inside out, and robbed the party of austerity of the unity and moral certainty it enjoyed when it was in the business of back-

well under way. European growth seems to me resilient enough to sail safely through troubled waters. But the Asian crisis will nevertheless take a toll on the world economy. Vigilance is required on the

structural side, too. The international community has succeeded in avoiding outright default and in limiting the contagion of the crisis, but the Asian shock could give rise to trade friction. After the relative price of Asian labor has been adjusted downward, a number of industries will confront increasing competition from highly competitive producers, and the trade-and-jobs debate will soon re-emerge in Europe and the United States.

The crisis will also continue sending shock waves throughout the emerging world and countries in transition. And the disruptions caused by the exchange turmoil will weaken support for financial globalization. Already, public opinion and commentators in Asia question the validity of external liberalization.

Policymakers in industrialized as well as emerging countries should therefore resist complacency, and hang together to address the consequences of the crisis in a cooperative way. This applies to the United States, to Japan, and to Europe, which has strong links with

would happen if they moved away News in New York.

were a traumatic blow for the Asia and a major stake in the of economic nationalism will inregion's recovery. There are now four main challenges before us: to facilitate the recovery of East Asian countries; to resist protectionism; to manage the upcoming international adjustment; and to draw from the recent events lessons for reforming the international architecture.

Facilitate recovery in countries in crisis. Asia is in a process of stabilization, but the political and social cost of the crisis will be very significant. There will be numerous failures, unemployment will reach unprecedented levels, and economic restructuring will be painful.

There is therefore a strong case for continuing to offer credit to countries in crisis, in order to foster adjustment of the external shocks, as well as for providing technical and financial assistance to address the social adjustment costs. This is an area in which Europe has experience and could help through the European-Asian Trust Fund created at the recent Asia-Europe summit.

Furthermore, as Asian countries are highly interdependent economically, regional cooperation is key in facilitating the recovery. In the present context, priority should be given to maintaining trade links and to avoiding a new round of exchange rate turmoil.

Further avenues include macroeconomic surveillance. as well as monetary and exchange rate cooperation. This is an area in which Europe also has experience, and we stand ready to share it. Resist protectionism. Finan-

cial and monetary turmoil fuels protectionist pressures. We know that bowing to these pressures would be the worst solution for all. As the consequences of the crisis unfold both in Asia and in

By Dominique Strauss-Kahn evitably become increasingly vocal. All members of the international community should reject calls for protection and strive to turn the crisis into an opportunity for further opening.

The industrialized countries should maintain the current level of market access and avoid recourse to contingent protection measures to dampen the coming rise in Asian exports. Asian countries should dis-

mantle protection in sheltered sectors, and carry out action plans to open up to direct investment from industrialized countries.

Manage international adjustment. World growth has lost the East Asian engine. Fortunately, the speed of the European engine is accelerating, and Europe will thus succeed Asia as a major contributor to world growth and trade. Together with the re-silience of U.S. growth, this will assist the Asian recovery. And I also hope that Japan

will soon carry out effective fiscal reflation measures, which are in its own interest. The Asian shock will

however affect the current account positions of Europe, the United States and Japan. Forecasts indicate that without a strong Japanese recovery, a further deterioration in the U.S. current account balance should be envisaged.

A temporary worsening of the current account position should not necessarily be considered as a problem. However, we should not be complacent in this field, either. In the period ahead, the Group of Seven will have to monitor output, inflation and current account positions, and enhance the quality of international coordination.

Exchange rate developments. in particular, will have to be monitored closely. This will be the priority topic for the newly the rest of the world, proponents established Euro-11 council, pointed out as "Harvard's un-

whose tasks include policy co-ordination and monitoring of more stable, global finance the exchange rate of the euro. Reform the international financial architecture. The Asian

crisis once again highlights the fragility of the international financial regime, and so an intense debate has begun on the lessons to be drawn. Recent events have once again demonstrated that eco-

nomic openness is an essential ingredient in growth and development, but that unfertered liberalization does not necessarily deliver them. Smoothly functioning markets require information and institutions.

reduce financial volatility and to improve the quality of economic policies in emerging countries. We should thus address the problem from several angles, in an attempt at finding

No one has a quick fix to

more stable, global finance more resilient, and policies more robust.

This will require changes in the way economic and financial information is made available to market participants, in the supervision of the financial sector, and in the multilateral surveillance of national policies, as well as improvements in the arrangements for international as-

sistance to countries in crisis. The Group of Seven was established to provide political leadership in the management of international interdependence. Let us show that it is still able to provide it.

The writer is the French minister for economy, finance and industry. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Spanish Dissent MADRID - The Correo Es-

panol publishes a manifesto issued by Don Carlos, duke of Madrid. He says he promised to render assistance to Spain if courage was shown in accepting the challenge thrown out by the Washington Government On the other hand, if a policy of national humiliation is followed by the Government he and his followers will forcibly snatch the reins of office from the men who thus show themselves unworthy to hold them.

1923: Unkissed Man

BOSTON - While Columbia University may boast of twentyone unkissed students, Harvard is without an unkissed man on her rolls. That is if George R. McLeod plucked up his courage sufficiently. Publicity and the stares of people to whom he was

kissed man" caused McLeod's rebellion against his status. He sallied forth from the dormitory with the parting to his room mate: "When I come back, Harvard won't have any such person as an unkissed man."

1948: Nazi Women

HAMBURG - An all-women war crimes trial opened here today [April 14]. Facing capital charges were five German women concentration-camp guards. Their alleged victims were more than 3,000 Allied women who were exterminated in the gas chamber of Ravensbruck. All five accused pleaded not guilty. E. Roderick Bowen, opening the prosecution's case. said: "You will be horrified at the depths of degradation to

regard as the gentler sex."

which some of these women stooped. You will be amazed at the bestial brutalities committed by members of what we usually

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OPINION/LETTERS

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three of these use were to vote against a today, they could also move to replace Mr. Trimble as parliamentary pany leader. That could greath weaken his position in Connecta messand.

Next weekend the agreement man clear your further hurdless a Stan Fem.

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party conference and a meeting of the second straight the second straight the second s Despute the fact that the settlement fails far short of Smn Fem/RA ob falls for store or some remarks of pertures, Gerry Adams and his units central collection. Martin McGumbey, and in personaling beautiful for the collection of the collection party and its national the Sinn Fen Headership to apply it — although the will productly be at the cost of long

Will prevent to the term of losing with the part of th Tremain when in the major ne granding success to tepore to major ne delicated placed. He could leave uply the

Next, the agreement has to be accepted in separate of a maintaneous fit.

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around the New York and South to the in doubt in the North Bere It. bearent of the recent are percent. they per use the contain that a month the effectment will be being to wish between the containing the containin

of Unionists will be take the all If it appeared that Mr Trimble had may secured the support of a flagging Language true weeks a rest of the property for him in the electric property American Several weeks later of Tombe tion and Nation beautiful add the ground product to the TABLE STATE STATE OF THE PROPERTY. A STATE OF THE STA

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U.S. Brains Alone Can't Power Silicon Valley

PALO ALTO. California — T. J. Rodgers, founder of Cypress Semiconductor, is angry, and he is not a man to hide his feelings. An entire wall of his office is proudly decorated with Hitachi or Samsung, and they will framed lawsuits filed against his company by rivals. Today what he is angry take away our wealth.

about is immigration - the lack of it. Silicon Valley has a huge shortage a cap of 65,000 H-1B visas per fiscal of computer engineers, and each year year (Oct. 1 to Sept. 30) for foreigners it makes up for that shortage by trying to cream off the best brains from and other specialty jobs. In 1997, the around the world and bring them here. But the Clinton-Gore team, caving in to organized labor, has been trying to year the cap will be reached in May, so limit their entry, even though there are there will be a huge shortage. not enough Americans to fill these high-tech jobs.

five new jobs locally to manufacture a market the chip and administrate the

chip." says Mr. Rodgers.
"Do I want to take away jobs from
Americans? Heck no. If I could hire all the engineers I need locally, I'd love to do it. But I can't. They're just

By Thomas L. Friedman

The facts: Since 1990 there has been 65,000 cap was reached a month before the end of the fiscal year, and this

Republican Senator Spencer Ab-For every foreign engineer you let Lebanese immigrants, has sponsored aham of Michigan, the grandson of me bring into this country and put to work at Cypress, I will guarantee you Act, that would lift the cap to 95,000 but also increase spending on highnucrochip, sell the chip, ship the chip. tech education for low-income students in America. It is a good bill, and by 12 to 6, despite administration

she here.

"So if we don't bring them here, they will still be engineers in their home countries, only instead of work."

"And a don hat a conjunct with a don hat a conjunct will be differentiated by brain
"Look," says Mr. Rodgers, "the winners and losers in the information age will be differentiated by brain-

jobs to lower-paying countries, but Kennedy, who don't see that. They just the opposite.

This is because in the high-tech having your knowledge team together in one place - and right now the place that is the core of this know-

ledge industry is America. But if U.S. companies are told to But if U.S. companies are told to of research — the guy who designs put up "No Vacancy" signs, they are my most advanced chips — is from inevitably going to move more Cuba. knowledge operations overseas, and that will spur more innovation, wealth creation and jobs over there. The idea that America would educate all these foreign computer engineers in U.S. universities and then send them home to compete with America is nuts.

Personally, I favor a very liberal approach to all legal immigration and refugee asylum. Any Haitian who has the guts and energy to build a boat from milk cartons and sail to America's shores is someone I would never turn it just passed the Judiciary Committee back. But in the case of high-tech workers, it is so obvious that they are the key to the future. One only hopes The crazy thing is that a computer that the Senate will ignore the ad-

home countries, only instead of work- wanting to move high-paying U.S. power. But we have senators, like Ted

want to send back the first-round draft choices of the intellectual world so business there is a real advantage to that they can compete against us in their homelands.

Four out of my 10 vice presidents are immigrants. Some 35 percent of my engineers are immigrants. My VP

Would you like the jobs in your country depending on only the engineers your country could produce, or would you like to have access to the top 10 percent of all engineers in the world? The United States is the only country that really has that access today. Japan, Switzerland, Germany

- they have no tradition of immigration, and that will be a huge disadvantage to them. "It takes 2 percent of Americans to

feed us all, and 5 percent to make everything we need," notes Mr. Rodgers. "Everything else will be service and information technology, and in that world humans and brains will be the key variable. Any country that would limit its brainpower to a single select group from that country alone is going to self-destruct."

The Ven York Times

'Cool Britannia' Looks More Like Fool Britannia

By Philip Bowring

ONDON - Asian and Leuropean heads of govemment arriving for the Asia-Europe summit meeting earlier this month were tons were barely aware that be drug-crazed and abusive tutional power and grassroots greeted with the latest bit of Britain was the host of the sloganeering from the Tony most important gathering of Blair public relations maleaders likely to assemble chine: Out with fuddy-duddy here for many a year. The start traditions, in with modern of the meeting made the front Britain's symbols. page of only one of the five No more Rule Britannia, so-called quality British Now it's Cool Britannia, and newspapers. The broadcast Her Majesty's diplomats will media were no better, and the

he delivering the message of tabloids mostly ignored the ige New Britain to the world. summit meeting entirely. Also on display was the Maybe they believe that Blairite Britain enshrined in a Britannic "cool" is so "bouncy castle" of small in-sweeping that Messrs. Chirac flatable domes erected on Lon- and Hashimoto, Zhu and don's Horse Guards Parade. Kohl will make a habit of This exhibition, dubbed spending springtime in Lon-"powerhouse::uk" was sup- don.

posed to represent the best of It is true that the Asia-Europe summit meeting was modern Britain. Critics suggested it showed a nation obmore symbol than substance. sessed with style that confuses But one might have expected trendiness with modernity. that, with Asian turmoil, It may not matter that old EMU progress and China's British brands, such as Rolls- Zhu Rongji making his first Royce, are being sold off. But foreign trip since being appointed prime minister, the there is scant sign here of new British media might have ones to replace them, or of anything to reverse the de- been able to turn their attencline of British manufactur- tion away from parochial is- former Robert Maxwell proing know-how. sues, reheated scandals and

The "new" Britain on dis- the late Princess Di. But no. May was a combination of pre- Mr. Blair cannot directly be tween this media-driven sys- the inevitable consequence of sumption and tackiness that, blamed for this. Trivia, sen- tem and the presidential style an administration preoccuafter less than a year in office, is the hallmark of the Blair falling standards of news judgadministration. Asians were ment have blighted the British left wondering how the nation ever managed to acquire an empire, and Europeans whether Britain would ever be ready

Summit participants got a of Cool Britannia much feted look at Britain, but most Bri- in Downing Street turn out to dia, is replacing both instipop stars who disgrace the participatory democracy.

The presidential to the president

> image, with form over substance, adds to the media's sense of importance. Media manipulation and news management are natural goals of

The Blair government, with its mastery of media manipulation, is mostly about appearances.

government. But Mr. Blair and his right-hand men have taken it to new heights. Ministers have even found themselves on the receiving end of policy directives from Mr. Blair's press secretary (and tégé) Alastair Campbell.

There is a direct link besationalism, phony scoops and of government that Mr. Blair has adopted. Given Labour's huge ma-

jority, Parliament is more than press for several years. However, Mr. Blair is very ever a rubber stamp, and minmuch in tune with a narrow, isters are more than ever subparochial and self-absorbed servient to Downing Street. media culture. Ambassadors Personalized populism, exem-

plified by Mr. Blair's exploilation of the Princess Di cult and driven by the tabloid me-

The presidential trend The Blair obsession with might have some merits were it accompanied by an American-style separation of powers. But the lack of checks and balances has contributed to a string of sleazy episodes of influence peddling and jobs for the boys remarkable for a government still so young.

"In just 11 months it has notched up an aggregate of venality. Tammany and perfidy which the Tories took years to put on board," said the leftist columnist John Pilger in the New Statesman. A recent example found

Mr. Blair himself intervening with the Italian prime minister on behalf of the business interests of Rupert Murdoch. Though Mr. Murdoch is the largest media owner in Britain, these are not British interests. Mr. Murdoch's use for commercial ends of politicians' assumptions about his media's influence is natural. Mr. Blair's conniving has been shocking but is perhaps

pied with media presentation. The episode was especially striking for Asian leaders now

being lectured by the West about cronvism and improper government-business links. It fits with New Labour's evident lack of ideology or

core values. It may be good politics in terms of photo opportunities, political horsetrading or the fickle judgments of financial markets to follow most of Margaret Thatcher's social and economic policies, or to be President Bill Clinton's poodle on Iraq. It certainly makes sense for Britain not to be at constant war with Brussels.

There is scant sign, however, of an administration with the sense of purpose to deal with a real crisis when one arises or to institute radical changes in which it really believes. The Blair government is mostly about appearances.

Meanwhile, two of Britain's larger contributions to the world are under threat at home. Parliamentary government is in decline. And the BBC World Service, once the global voice of the English language, is being eroded to pay for more trendy, trivial domestic programming. Cool Britannia? Fool Britannia. International Herold Tribune.

A Glacial Response to 'Titanic' From European Intellectuals

By Richard Pells

them had seen "Titanic." In Iceland, as the imbalance in the cultural relationships elsewhere in Europe, another American between the two continents. But among the movie has attracted huge audiences and most important is a difference in attitude become a cultural phenomenon.

Yet a number of Europeans tell me they refuse to see "Titanic" on principle. What Germany. I am struck by the disdain for the "principle," I ask. do they have in mind? They answer with a litany of complaints the mentality of ordinary people. In many about the movie and about American mass parts of Europe. I have encountered a per-

MEANWHILE

culture in general. "Titanic" is too "mainstream." It appeals primarily to young girls art, it is felt, need not be marketed or hyped; infatuated with Leonardo DiCaprio. Its love it will naturally find its audience. story is typical Hollywood hokum. Like all movies about the past, it distorts history. Its . idea that salesmanship may be indispenssuccess is exclusively a result of marketing, able in reaching consumers even of high publicity and hype.

film, or to point out that the story is about the emergence of a woman's self-awareness and independence (a theme with contemporary resonance). Nor will my friends be persuaded that "Titanic" is an epic romance, reminiscent of "Gone With the Wind" and "Casablanca," or that the masses sometimes know a great movie when they see one.

One reason such arguments are inefages American movie producers and advertisers disseminate. Over the past 10 years, however, scholars who specialize in American studies have insisted that the reception of American mass culture in Europe is more complicated. Audiences, pete with America's cultural exports. they contend, are not robots. They adapt American culture to their own needs, tastes and traditions.

This is a viewpoint I share. It makes Europeans less the victims of America's liant a filmmaker. "cultural imperialism" and more responsible for choosing what effect mass culture will have on their lives.

But this perspective still begs questions. participant asked whether a European director could have made "Titanic." I wondered whether any European director would have wanted to. Because regardless of whether European audiences are passive or active in their response to Hollywood movies, Europeans have not created a mass culture to rival America's. Why does America remain the chief exporter, and Europe the chief recipient, of modern culture?

BONN — There are 250,000 people in Iceland. As of March, 100,000 of nomic, technological and historical — for toward consumers.

As an American temporarily living in needs and opinions of customers, and for sistent elitism among intellectuals and academics, a preference for the marginal over the mainstream, a sympathy for the unpopular and incomprehensible. A work of

Educated Europeans are suspicious of the culture. On the contrary, they believe that Above all, no movie this popular with the commercial success and artistic excellence masses can be good, or worth seeing.

Faced with these presumptions, it is useless to praise the visual eloquence of the movie cannot be a work of art.

I am not suggesting that, as in America. the customer is always right. But neither are consumers, either in department stores or movie theaters, invariably wrong. Nor should they be ignored, by shopkeepers, professors or filmmakers. In effect, the American regard for the

consumer has resulted in a culture that is democratic, one that is accessible to audiences. Consequently, American culture fective is that European intellectuals have can be vulgar and witless. But it can also long asserted that audiences are passive be, as in the case of "Titanic," emotionally receptacles for whatever messages and imand artistically compelling for millions

Until European artists and intellectuals take these millions into account, until they relinquish their mistrust of the masses, they will not be able to create works that com-

I do not know whether a European director could have made "Titanic." To do so, he or she would have needed to be as maniacal as James Cameron. And as bril-

Which raises a final paradox. American culture may be democratic, but it is also the product of talented individuals. "Titanic" reminds us that the creation of cul-Recently, at a conference in Bologna, a ture ultimately depends not on marketing campaigns nor even on audience acceptance, but on an individual's genius and imagination.

> The writer, a Fulbright professor at Bonn University, is the author of "Not Like Us: How Europeans Have Loved, Hated and Transformed American Culture Since World War II." He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Russia Today

Regarding "This Isn't the Way to Help Russia" (Opin-ion, April 1) by Thomus L.

to join the single currency.

Mr. Friedman thinks we Americans fought the Cold to change Russia into a normal, democratic country with which the United States can cooperate on the post-Cold War agenda. He thus opposes NATO expansion, which he sees as strengthening Russian foes of democracy. But the situation is more complicated

I came to Russia in 1990, planning to play a bit part in the transformation of Russia as a teacher of economics. I am still at it, but along the way I have learned a couple of

things. One is that changing Russia hito a normal, democratic country ready to live quietly within its own borders is an agenda for a century, not for a decade. American foreign policy today must deal with Russia as it is and as it will be

The Russia that now exists still views itself as a big power only temporarily down on its luck. All of the former Soviet Union and much of the rest of the former Soviet empire are regions still seen as a legitimate sphere of influence.

sphere are right to remember Soviet invasions, repressions and deportations, and are fully justified in seeking NATÓ membership to consolidate their ties with the West.

The other thing I have learned is that Russia is in no hurry to reject its Soviet past. Lenin lies undisturbed in Red Square, and there have been only a handful of name changes to streets, cities and educational institutions dedicated to Bolshevism's bloodiest fanatics. Russians cry foul when SS veterans parade in Latvia, but at home they see parades by pensioners waving Stalin portraits as harmless

Relax! What could go wrong here in 'Mergerassic Park'?

for a long time, not with a Yeltsin's new prime minis- as an enemy, or that cooperdream-Russia that may exist ter designate, supposedly a ation in specific areas of comseveral generations from now. member of the post-Cold War planning. The kind of developments

The states that inhabit that

nostalgia for better times,

generation, professes admiration for the "ideals" of communism, apparently havrepudiated only the failed methods of central

that would permit the kind of cooperative relationship between Russia and America that Mr. Friedman dreams of respect for individual rights, individual responsibility and tolerance, including religious tolerance - are

very slow to emerge.

The problem is not that desuch a party.

None of this means that

mocracy in Russia is still shaky. Democracy in Russia is working: Russia's elected leaders reflect the thoughts of the voters on the important issues of the day. There is no political party in Russia today that represents the kind of changed Russia that Mr. Friedman dreams of. The votes are not there to support

It is revealing that Boris America should treat Russia

mon interest is not possible. Nonetheless, while we continue to invest in Russian democracy and to cooperate where we can, we should also move forward with NATO expansion, keeping firmly in mind how things are, not how we wish them to be.

EDWIN G. DOLAN.

The writer is president of the American Institute of Business and Economics in

Smoking Abroad

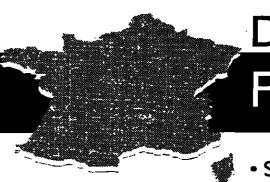
American tobacco companies' targeting of foreign markets, now that their U.S. market is coming under more government control ("Flogging Cigarettes Elsewhere. Opinion, April 2, by Jim Hoagland), has been obvious to many of us living abroad. Restraints on tobacco sales and use, if enacted at all here in Europe, are rarely enforced.

Also, tobacco is a government monopoly in many countries, making tremendous profits and providing sizable tax revenues. Are foreign governments going to abandon all this at the behest of the United States?

We Americans are envied for our economic and military strength but are criticized for trying to be the world's policeman, Should we now become the world's public health officer and spend taxpayers' money to fund antismoking campaigns abroad? Do you think anyone would listen if we did?

VINCE MAHLER.

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national popularity. Reggae is part of the vocabulary of every working pop musician. The disk jockeys known as toasters are now acknowledged as the earliest urge Jamaicans to save their country and progenitors of rap, and ska has lately their souls. become the favorite of skateboarders and punk bands the world over.

But the story has been different with the homegrown style called dancehall. While dominating Jamaican popular music for most of the last decade, dancehall has remained on the fringes of pop consciousness, even though its driving electronic beat and sex- and violencesoaked lyrics would seem to make it a prime candidate for crossover in an era But the pendulum is swinging back the in which the lowest common denominator reigns supreme.

*INGSTON, Jamaica — Every musical style to emerge from Jamaica over the past 35 years has eventually achieved interpopularity. Reggae is part of the ry of every working popularity. Reggae is part of the ry of every working popularity. Reggae is part of the ry of every working popularity. The single sin

The proper function of the Jamaican artist is to be "missionary, visionary and messenger," said Luciano, the sweet-voiced, intensely spiritual vocalist whose stirring songs of redemption and uplift have become virtual anthems here in recent years. "Yes, there are still people around who are singing slack lyrics about the silly things in life, like what they going to do to their woman. other way.

If so, worsening political and eco-

Marley have enhanced their credibility

who Jamaicans see ourselves as a powerful world cultural force, and we can't understand why as a people we can't get the economics right, why the social and political conditions can't be better," explained Carl Bradshaw, a veteran actor and screenwriter who is now director of operations for Island Entertainment Jamaica, the country's lead
who Data and making his songs like "Wicked Inna Bed"—are songs like "Wicked Inna Bed" tertainment Jamaica, the country's leading record label for the last 40 years.

Tony Rebel and Gamet Silk, who died toward the Rastafarian tradition, with its rebelliousness. Beenie Man, who started the film has been performance scenes out the piano and everything else."

found a home in the dance halls, pushing

Keith Anthony Blair. Sizzla, an even more recent and increasingly influential arrival, has tried to take a middle po-

guns, the new breed, led by singers and songwriters like Luciano, Anthony B., the prophetic role once played by Bob deemed seditions and libelous, the song lascivious lyrics, and Shabba Ranks, who became the movement's boastful aside more frivolous fare and making hits hypermacho ambassador thanks to

> comes the mysterious queen of the ball. The movie, recently released direct to video in the United States, is now the in a fire in 1994, were among the first on the dancehall scene to lead the way back ciano's spirituality and Anthony B.'s an history. But a strong selling point for the biggest box-office attraction in Jamaic-don't want to make changes in the tune. It's all one chord, because they have currently and Anthony B.'s an history. But a strong selling point for the biggest box-office attraction in Jamaic-don't want to make changes in the tune. It's all one chord, because they have currently and Anthony B.'s an history. But a strong selling point for the biggest box-office attraction in Jamaic-don't want to make changes in the tune.

Market His State of the State o

The effort to transform and reinvig. orate dancehall, however, focuses as much on melody and harmony as on lyrics and fashion. Musicians and listeners alike appear to have grown fired of the genre's increasingly stripped down and minimalist sound, a product of dance hall's fascination with American hip-hop

music. "It's a good beat, but that's all there is to it. It's like the danceball artists

Paris Operas Bow to Their Pasts

By David Stevens

ARIS — The Paris Opera and the Opera Comique, with an eye to history as well as repertory, have both come up with new productions of works that loom large in their own past, and in performances of musical distinction.

At the Bastille, the Opera is staging its second production of Alban Berg's "Lulu," 19 years after the company mounted the world premiere of the completed version of a work that had previously always been given as the incomplete torso the composer left. Debussy's "Pelleas et Melisande" belongs to the Comique, where it had its world premiere in 1902, but where it had not been seen in more than a quarter-century.

In the new staging of "Lulu," Willy Decker and his designer, Wolfgang Gussmann, sidestep Berg's ultrawithout being unfaithful to

the spirit. The basic set consists of a cream-colored curved wall perforated by several doors, while above it is a kind of dark grandstand peopled most of the time by a group of men in identical dark coats and fedoras, and where events only alluded to in the text are shown or

Thus, Lulu can be seen pretending to faint at the sight of Dr. Schoen and his fiancée before she storms into the theater



specific scenic instructions A scene from "Lulu" at the Paris Opera.

Ladders are used for access to the lower stage, accentuating the idea that it is a semi-isolated scene of deadly combat, like a bullring. The strong erotic element of the opera is underlined in some of Lulu's costumes and in accessories like the red divan in the form of pair of lips or the segments of the fetish-portrait.

Dennis Russell Davies was the secure and dramatically aware conductor. dressing room and her confrontation with Anna-Katharina Behnke negotiated roles handsomely. Christian Treguier Dr. Schoen. Or Lulu can been seen street-Lulu's vocal stratosphere with fearless was a sonorous Arkel, and an unidenwalking and bringing back to her garret the men who figure in the final scene.

aplomb and was a convincing actress. tified boy soprano from the Bad Toelz while Julia Juon was a warm-voiced. choir was the touching Yniold.

restrained Geschwitz. Wolfgang Schoene was the experienced Dr. Schoen. David Kuebler a lyrical Alwa, Carlos Feller a splendidly scruffy Schigolch, while Eirian James, Claude Pia, Gunter von Kannen and Robert Woerle managed their multiple

roles adroitly.
At the Salle Favart, the veteran Georges Pretre, with the Orchestre National in the pit, was in charge of a richly nuanced yet full-voiced reading

of the Debussy score. Pierre Medecin and his designer, Andreas Reinhardt, made full use of the stage in this highly personal take on the story. Golaud is omnipresent, seated at the front of the stage as if in his living room, drinking, reading, moping about the past and advancing years, occasionally getting up to join the action with characters who, after all, are only in his imagination.

Melisande has short hair. although the long tresses in the text are hinted at in the

cascade of shooting stars in the background. The back wall of the stage suggests a castle, and its openings let in seascape and starry skies. The impression that water is everywhere is reinforced by a mechanism that permitted water to flow over the stage constantly.
Francois Le Roux, hitherto a Pelleas,

sang his first Golaud with power and sensitivity, while William Dazeley and Anne-Marguerite Werster sang the title

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BOOKS

NOSFERATU

By Jim Shepard, 215 pages. \$22. Knopf. Reviewed by Dennis Drabelle

screened the restored "Nos-. feratu: A Symphony of Horrors," the German director F.W. Murnau's barely disguised version of Bram Stoker's novel "Dracula," -- with a live orchestra playing the reconstituted original pleasure available to pre-talkmuch camera movement. primitive film stock, florid acting. But this "Nosferatu,"

The New York Times
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NUNFICTION

movement from the images captured by the camera, notably the shadows cast by Max Schreck as the stalking vampire with fingernails like bayonets; sumptuously tinted film, and a breathtaking trick A FEW years ago the Na-a scene presented in neg-ative form, with all the values reversed. The acting was flor-A Symphony of Hor-the German director from Murnau's Symphony of Effects.

As it happened, according to Jim Shepard in this brilliant fictional version of the director's life, Mumau was well score. What a spectacle! We aware that acting was the tend to slight the moviegoing movie's weak link. Failing to get Conrad Veidt, the hollowie audiences: no voices, not cheeked somnambulist from "The Cabinet of Dr. Cal-

igari." for his leading man, Murnau had settled for a popshown as it would have been ular but wooden substitute. in almost any first-run house. Vampire Schreck was a newof its time (1922), was a sens- comer, but Murnau correctly ory juggernaut: a hall filled intuited that his grotesque apwith eerie music; plenty of pearance would outweigh any

4 TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE by Mitch

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BEST SELLERS

weakness in his performance. age. Having survived his own "Nosferatu" the novel is stint as a wartime flyer, episodic and selective: Shepard makes little or no mention of Murnau's pre-"Nosferatu" films in Germany and leaves out his great American sentimental melodrama "Sunrise." But I note these omisdo not detract from the sense of a life fully explored. For the most part, the story is chronological, the main exception being the next-to-last section. as an aging hotel doorman when the author revisits a whose demotion to bathroom wrenching episode from Murnau's past: the death of his beloved, Hans Ehrenbaum-Degele, in World War I.

The two had met at college in Berlin, when Murnau was still known as Friedrich Wilhelm Plumpe. A stolid, un-emotional boy, he grew up in a Westphalian town "so quiet that when Wilhelm looked out a window and finally did see a passerby, it was as if a tapestry had moved," and he was charmed by Hans's urbane manners and liberal parents (the mother was a Gentile opera singer, the father a Jewish banker). But there was more to Hans: an almost preternatural kindness. From the start of their affair, a boy named Spiess devoted him-self to prving Wilhelm away

from Hans. The two friends leave college; Hans writes poetry, and Murnau joins the troupe of the innovative producer Max Reinhardt, where he contributes to a stage-shaking invention. an electronic console for orchestrating changes in light-

One day, while Spiess, Hans and Murnau are together. Hans realizes that Spiess and Murnau have slept with each other. "If Murnau could have forgiven himself for everything else. Shepard writes. "he could not have forgiven his responsibility for that moment. When Hans is killed in battle. Murnau strings suades us both that we know together a chain of causation that begins with his own unfaithfulness and hooks up with Hans's impetuous decision to

volunteer for combat. Whatever its effects on though. Hans's death seems wrote this for The Washington to have done no artistic dam- Post.

Murnau returns to Berlin and gets caught up in cinema. taking up directing by default. Though making "Nosferatu" causes Murnau to reflect upon "an essentially trivial quality at the heart of film's fascinsions only for the record: They ation - a nervous, aggressive vulgarity," the movie is a critical and popular success. His next film, "The Last Laugh," stars Emil Jannings

attendant deprives him of his pride: the ornate livery he got to wear. The pains he takes with the film, including putting to use cinematographer Karl Freund's invention of a camera whose movements can be steadied by a built-in electronic gyroscope, pay off: "The Last Laugh" is an international hit, and Murnau moves to Hollywood.

A misfit in the studio system, he makes a few films and then strikes out for Polynesia. where, with backing from a new company and in partnership with the famous documentary filmmaker Robert Flaherty ("Nanook of the North"). he starts work on "Tabu," a poetic love story. The funding dries up, Flaherty leaves after a tiff, but Murnau draws on his savings and stays to finish up, smitten by the tropics and not least the beautiful boys who hang around the set. Still, he writes his mother that he is "never 'at

home, anywhere. The novel's penultimate section, a flashback that comes just before a brief narrative of his death in a 1931 car accident, shows him trying his damnedest to bridge that distance in a fervent letter to Hans. Beggaring almost every stereotype about artists, homosexuals and Germans. Murnau is one of the most far more about him than any of his colleagues or lovers do. even Hans, and that there is still more about him to know.

Dennis Drabelle, a Wash-Murnau's emotional life, ington author and editor.

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AIKTS.

*Hollywood Embraces a Suddenly Ubiquitous Heather Graham

By Margy Rochlin New York Times Service

OS ANGELES - Although their rules forbid them to admit it, the people at the Motion Picture Association of America have been seeing a lot of the actress Heather Graham lately. Early last fall, members of this watchdog group saw her glide across this watchdog group saw her glide across the screen portraying the bewheeled pornography star Rollergirl as "Boogie Nights" was shown to them on 14 occasions before they gave it an R rating.

This was just the beginning of the MPAA's Heatherfest. Next on the bill was James Toback's "Two Girls and a Girv" which follows two understand-

Guy," which follows two understandably aggrieved women (played by Graham and Natasha Gregson Wagner) for 92 minutes as they grill a charmer (Robert Charmer) Downey Jr.) who has been whispering

pledges of faithful love to each of them.

and Downey engage in a sort of sexual encounter not often seen at your local sions of the scene before it withdrew its

dreaded NC-17 label and granted an R. The association viewed "Lost in Space," which opened last weekend, family stranded in a foreign galaxy, Graham's character remains chaste.

As the pensive eldest daughter, Judy Robinson, she spends most of the film clad in an orange wrist-to-ankle jumpsuit, perpetually rejecting the advances of the spacecraft's randy pilot (Matt LeBlanc).

reached a "Her again?" point with the 28-year-old Graham remains a mystery. When Joan Graves, a veteran MPAA

already notorious for one dimly lighted headquarters, she laughed for a long again, in the indie hit "Swingers," about time after being posed the question. a group of cocktail-swilling hipsters in We provide consumer advice for parshe finally managed to intone cinema. The ratings board saw 14 ver- solemnly. "We don't have as many personal reactions as you think we do.

Graham has spent the last decade hovering in the background of more than two dozen films - many of them videoonly once before stamping it PG-13. In that action thriller, which is based on the hit television show of the 1960s about a base hired for more than her blond mermaid hair and wide blue eyes.

Gus Van Sant had the foresight to do so back in 1989 with "Drugstore Cowboy," in which Graham played the eager-to-please Nadine so skillfully that audiences tended to grieve as much as whether the association has officially she died of a drug overdose halfway

through the picture.

Although she had a brief, memorable Although it won't be released until member, was reached by telephone at the organization's San Fernando Valley years for critics to take notice of her stint as a nun on the television drama

She herself has only recently begun to understand who deserved credit for her noted performances. "I used to think that to be good, I needed a good director to bring it out of me," said Graham, who is thoughtful and well read but, unlike many in her profession, not always try-ing to prove it. 'For me, Boogle Nights' was a turning point. This time, I thought, I was in a good situation, but I did it. I know that as a person, I'm so much more confident now. Like, night and day from when I started off."

ORN in Virginia, she was brought up in a devout Roman Catholic household in the conservative Los Angeles suburb of Agoura. While the neighborhood's tract-house uniformity pleased her father, an FBI agent, now retired, and her mother, a writer of children's books, Graham felt interred in monotony.

There were no options," she said. "Everything, everyone, was the same. You go to the mall. If someone's parents were out of town, you'd go to their house and have a party. I mean, they filmed 'Poltergeist' in Agoura for a reason."

Only 45 minutes away, the entertainment capital of the world beckoned. Before she graduated from high school, she had signed with an agent and appeared in a television movie called "Student Exchange," which starred O.J. Simpson. ("Friendly and normal" is the way she recalled him, "But I only knew him movie business is conducting a string of the actors.

With her first sizable paycheck in like I do. Actually, I don't talk to them," she said. "I don't want to! My friends are my surrogate family." In this she is intriguingly like the affection-hungry charges is conducting a string. recalled him. "But I only knew him movie business is conducting a spring character she played so well in "Boogie slightly." Soon after, she made her romance with Graham, who will soon be Nights."

Graham as the bewheeled porn star Rollergirl in "Boogie Nights"

feature-film debut in "License to Drive." a bit of teenage fluff packaged around two heartthrobs du jour, Corey Haim and Corey Feldman.

"I remember thinking: 'Wow! They are such big stars, "said Graham, whose portrayal of a social goddess was enhanced by the fact that at 5 feet 8 inches (1.72 meters), she towered over both of

seen with Kenneth Branagh in "Alien Love Triangle," with Steve Martin in "Bofinger's Big Thing" and in "Committed," written and directed by Lisa mitted," written and directed by Lisa Krueger ("Manny and Lo").

"Some people have an easy relationship with their parents," said Graham, whose younger sister, Aimee, also an actress, had a bit part in Quentin Tarant-ino's "Jackie Brown." "But I don't feel

The Finns Have a Word for It

And the Word Over the Airwaves Is in Latin



The Finnish Broadcasting Company has a weekly news program in Latin and has recently expanded to the Web

By Barry James

mo Pekkanen has been writing and producing a weekly news digest for the Finnish Broadcasting Company since the fall of the Berlin wall, and he has never once been lost for a verbum - even though the broadcasts go out entirely

Outside Vatican Radio, this is said to be the only regular broadcast in classical Latin, and it attracts a loyal following from all around the world.

Pekkanen, a university professor, lives and breathes Latin, which he says is a lot easier than his own language, Finnish. Certainly, he ob-serves, more people around the world understand and speak it than Finnish.

do anything a modern lan- antia" (cruise missiles) or guage can do, Pekkanen writes the Latin lyrics for a um" for electronic text. jazz band called Reine Rimon Eiusque Papae Fervidissimi, that much of the technical or Reine Rimon and Her Hot vocabulary is of Greek or Lat-

The band has recorded two CDs, one based on the odes of ible to an ancient Roman of Catullus. A third record is and visio is from Latin.

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planned, based on Ovid's 'Amores.' The repertory includes reworked versions of as a symbol of the nation's New Orleans classics such as 'Cum sancti caelum ineunt'' (When the Saints Go Marching In), "Veneres Plorent" (Who's Sorry Now?) or "Amor, amor, qui me des-picis" (Careless Love). middle of the 19th century.

and for scholars living on a frozen boundary land it The scripts of the Latin provided the means to pursue broadcasts, a survey of international and domestic their studies in Central and Western Europe. events called Nuntii Latini or The University of Jyvas-kyla, where Pekkanen teaches, is one of the centers News in Latin, are published from time to time and serve as textbooks in high schools and

Pekkanen says the broadcasts are grammatically pure, although he has no objections to coining a neologism or combining existing words if something modern has no exact Latin translation. Examples: "cohortes reactionis rapidae" (rapid-reaction And to show that Latin can forces), missilia circumvag-"documentum electronic-

It helps, Pekkanen said, in origin. Televisio for television would be comprehens-Horace and one on the poems because tele is from Greek

Latin has held a special the program on the World place in Finland for centuries Wide Web, www.yle fi, which is also a means of creating a community of Latin scholars attachment to the West rather and fans around the world. than to the Orthodox Russianspeaking world next door. It was the most important The show began as a lighthearted experiment, but school subject until the quickly caught on. With several thousand listeners, its

popularity rivals some programs in Swedish, the country's second language. Pekkanen wonders why anyone would want to learn artificial languages like Es-peranto, which he called boring and lacking culture, when

of Finland's strong classical Latin can unlock a vast realm tradition. Last year, it hosted the ninth International Latin of history and thought.
"We should reinforce its Congress, proving that delteaching in schools and uniegates from all over the world had no difficulty conversing versities," he said, "so that we have the possibility and in their lingua franca. Not surthe means to emphasize our prisingly, Finnish television common spiritual origins. It is turned up to cover the congress — in Latin. not enough to have common economic interests and com-EKKANEN is realist- more is needed, by which I

ic enough to see that mean this cultural back-Latin will never replace English as the Pekkanen said he selected world's modern lingua the most important items each franca. Nevertheless, he said, week for his news digest and an estimated 15 million never dismissed an item bepeople speak or understand cause he couldn't find a way Latin in the European Union, of expressing it. 'Of course, which as a geographical entity it takes time because the style almost covers the extent of the must be faultless so that every latinized medieval world. sentence can be used as an Finland's education minis- example of Latin syntax," he ter, Olli-Pekka Heinonen says said. It also has to be clear so

Latin is an important means that it carries well on shortof retaining humanistic val- wave broadcasts. ues in a world where "many profit,

ing Company, which serves a about togas and gravitas. domestic audience of only five million, Latin has been a a It gets letters from about 50

The programs are read by people have become too one of Pekkanen's colmuch accustomed to evalu- leagues, Reijo Pitkaranta, by ating all things in terms of his wife and sometimes by his their potential for financial students. He said it is important to use a woman's voice to For the Finnish Broadcast- offset the idea that Latin is all

Pekkanen has also written great deal of Latin poetry means of attracting listeners including a translation of all far beyond Finland's borders. 22,795 verses of the national epic, the Kalevala. "I've been countries asking for program learning Latin since 1955," schedules and more details, a he said. "There must be spokeswoman said. It has ex- something in it to keep my panded its reach by putting interest all these years.

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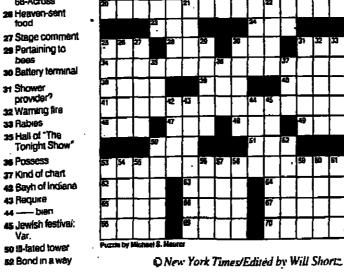
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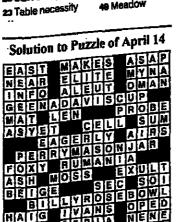
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21, United States Code Section 881

(a) (6), against Account No. 747.034/278 in Banco Espanol de

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by Spanish authorities pending the

Rule C(6) of the Supplemental

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tled to possession or claiming any

interest in or to said property must file with the Clerk and attorney for

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United States Additional procedures and regulations regarding this

19. United States Code, Sections

1602-1619, and Title 21, Code of

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and answers should contain the

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Customers Fret Over Bank Deal

By Beth Berselli and Stephanie Stoughton Washington Pust Service

WASHINGTON - NationsBank Corp. and BankAmerica Corp. executives have lauded the added customer convenience that could come from the banks' merger, but customers fear that such deals could result in more fees and bureaucracy and less service.

"These huge corporations, they've lost sight of certain things," such as providing customer service, said Tom Wildenberg, a writer from Silver Spring, Maryland, who stopped by a Nations-Bank branch after the merger was announced Monday. "They no longer have to fight for customers, and you're left with no choices and higher fees."

Analysts said some recent mergers had shown that bigger was not necessarily better when it came to the accounts of individual customers. While creating a coast-to-coast banking giant should result in added convenience for some customers - easier access to automated teller machines, for instance

 for others it could mean higher fees. Ed Mierzwinski of the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, which conducts annual surveys on bank fees, said, "NationsBank has a history of coming into a market, taking over and imposing their own fee structure, which generally means higher fees, more fees and higher balances required to avoid fees.'

Arnold Danielson, a banking consultant in Rockville, Maryland, said bigger banks did tend to charge higher fees that also paid higher interest rates on deposits and offered lower-cost loans. He said NationsBank customers should prepare for different fees to be charged, although not necessarily higher fees.

■ Tokyo to Banks: Get Ready

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto urged Japanese banks Tuesday to speed write-offs of bad debt to face the intense global competition resulting from U.S. bank mergers, Agence France-Presse reported from Tokyo.

Meanwhile, banking stocks surged in Europe on speculation that the trend toward consolidation would soon reach the Continent, Bloomberg News report-



Alejandro Elsztain giving investment analysts a horseback tour of a farm belonging to his company, Cresud, Argentina's largest landowner.

A Bet on Argentina's Future as the World's Breadbasket Driven by a Vision of an Agribusiness Powerhouse, Two Brothers Hope to Cash In on Globalization

By Clifford Krauss New York Times Service

UENOS AIRES — Moments after taking off from an airport, Alejandro Elsztain peered out at the patchwork of farms spreading over the Argentine horizon.

"At the beginning of the century, the land is what Argentina was known for," Mr. Elsztain told a group of investment fund analysts looking over farms managed by him. "And in the future, Argentina will once again be known for its agriculture. We are just beginning."
When Mr. Elsztain speaks of "we,"

he is referring not just to Argentina but also to himself and his older brother, Eduardo, whose fortunes are increasingly intertwined with the fortunes of their nation.

With a vision of Argentina awakening from six decades of economic slumber to become a dominant agribusiness

power in the next 15 years, the two brothers are quietly building Latin America's newest real-estate empire before either has reached the age of 40. Though their gamble that Argentina

will become the next big breadbasket in

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

an increasingly integrated global economy is only beginning to pay off, they have already emerged from obscurity. Since Eduardo talked his way into

George Soros' office in New York eight years ago and came away with a \$10 million check, they have become darlings of Wall Street's emerging-market gurus and Argentina's free-enterprise revolutionaries intent on smashing the nation's quaint tradition of inefficient and underfinanced family farms and ranches.

The history of Latin America is full of wealthy hacendados and rancheros, powerful figures who pulled the strings

from behind the scenes; the Elsztains are not like that. They are outsiders, third-generation Jews from Eastern and Central Europe in a thoroughly Roman Catholic country, their vision nourished by a mystical Orthodox faith.

With an audacity that has stunned many in the Argentine business community, the Elsztains doubled their rural land holdings to 1.1 million acres (440,000 hectares) in the past year - a vault that suddenly made Cresud, their farm company, into Argentina's largest landowner and biggest producer of beef

Meanwhile, their real-estate com-pany, IRSA, headed by Eduardo Elsztain, is remaking the skyline of Buenos Aires and pushing the city's development south and east.

There is a tremendous amount of going into the developing Eduardo said. "That pool of money is translated into increases in

salaries. People who have a jump in salary first begin to eat a little better. That creates a demand for food, and that's where Argentina will grow.

Cresud is bringing about big changes in Argentine ranching and agriculture with biotechnology, extensive irrigation of marginal land and one particular innovation that horrifies most gauchos and Argentine beef-eaters who shun fatty meat. Cresud recently entered into a joint venture with the Texas-based Cactus Feeders to begin fattening 100,000 head of cattle a year with corn rather than traditional Argentine grass to increase yields and produce cuts of beef that are marbled with more fat to

appeal to American and Asian tastes.

Believing that the Argentine middle and upper classes can only expand and grow richer, the Elsztains' real-estate arm is buying up shopping centers, office

See LAND, Page 17

Wall Street **Cheers New** Price Data

Dow Vaults Over 9,100 As Inflation Stays Tame

Compiled by Our Stuff From Disputches

WASHINGTON - Inflation disappeared from the U.S. economy for the second time in three months in March, with a continued steep drop in energy costs offsetting scattered price increases in other areas. The data spurred strong gains in both the stock and bond markets

The consumer price index was un-changed last month after inching just 0.1 percent higher in February and holding steady in January, the Labor Department said. This means that inflation, which sank to an 11-year low of 1.7 percent in 1997, ran at a barely detectable 0.2 percent annual rate in the first quarter of 1998.

Meanwhile, retail sales unexpectedly declined 0.1 percent in March, pulled down by drops in the sale of autos, building materials and furniture, the Commerce Department said.

'Businesses can't raise prices - and in some cases they're cutting them,' said Mark Vitner, an economist at First Union Corp. in Charlotte, North Carolina. That cuts into the value of retail sales even though the volume of goods going out the door is rising by about 3 percent, he said.

The reports were a winning combination for bonds as well as stocks. The Dow Jones industrial average surged 97.90 points to a record 9,110.20, while the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond closed up 12/32 in price at 103 4/32, pushing down its yield to 5.90 percent from 5.93 percent.

The consumer price index, the government's key barometer of consumer costs, was held in check last month by the fourth straight drop in energy prices, Labor Department figures showed.

The 1.4 percent rise in the index in the past 12 months is the second-smallest increase in 33 years, bested only by a decline in prices in 1986 after oil prices

The March drop of retail sales by 0.1 rcent followed a gain of 0.7 percent in February, Commerce Department fig-

See STOCKS, Page 17

Crucial Months Ahead for Malaysia

Economists Say Actions Now May Decide How It Fares in Asian Crisis

By Thomas Fuller

KUALA LUMPUR - Thanks to neat checklists prepared by the International Monetary Fund, investors in recent months have judged the health of East Asia's most troubled economies like a stock boy with a clipboard, ticking off the IMF's point-by-point reforms as they happen.

This hasn't been so with Malaysia, however, which has suffered currency slides and stock-market plunges similar to those of its neighbors but has not needed IMF assistance.

"No stick, no carrot and no or guidelines against which we can measure our performance," said Dominique Armstrong, head of research at Pesaka Jardine Fleming Sdn.

Malaysia has avoided bringing in the IMF, analysts say, because its banking system was better supervised and, more important the country did not country's 39 finance companies reguidelines against which we can mea-

more important, the country did not borrow as much from abroad, compared with its neighbors. While crip-pling levels of foreign debt in countries such as Indonesia, South Korea and Thailand forced problems in those countries out into the open, Malaysia has avoided high-profile corporate bankruptcies or major bank failures since the regional economic crisis started last year.

But the country nonetheless shares almost all of its neighbors' problems, including an overheated property sec-

Cross Rates

tor, increasing levels of bad loans and Bhd., have been interpreted by analysts rising inflation rates. Banks will need and the markets as bailouts. about \$5 billion over the next two years to cover loan defaults, which will reach 20 percent of total loans, according to an estimate by Neil Saker of SocGen

Crosby Securities Pte. Ltd. Economists view the government's management over the next few months as critical — particularly whether it bails out companies or allows them to

Malaysia's central bank has tried to head off the problem of bad loans by nudging the country's smaller banks and finance companies to merge with larger ones. It is calculating that a consolidated financial-services in-

cently announced mergers that would reduce their number to eight. The details are not known yet, and analysts said the way the deals were structured would show whether or not some of

them were bailouts. Publicly, the Malaysian government has been emphatic about its policy on "We are not here to protect or bail Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim out, said in December, a theme he has repeated several times since.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

But in practice, several recent deals, including the takeover of Sime Bank

After Sime Bank announced several weeks ago that it lost 1.8 billion ringgit (\$514 million) last year and needed 1.2 billion ringgit in fresh capital, the government encouraged one of the country's largest financial groups, Rashid Hussain Bhd., to buy Sime and merge it with its own, healthier bank.

If the IMF had come in, it would have made sure that people who were responsible for the crisis would pay the price, said Mohamed Ariff, executive director of the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research.

"They would have made sure there was some blood on the floor," he said. "But now, it looks as though it's not

One of the areas the IMF might have addressed is the close relationship be-

tween the government and certain "Malaysia is a very personalized economy, very hands-on by the leading politicians, Mr. Armstrong said. You've got a number of individuals with very serious debt problems op-erating businesses that should prob-

ably no longer be there."

As for the merger program, many analysts say it will not be enough to keep the Malaysian banking system healthy and that Malaysia, too, will need foreign funds - not from the IMF, because the banks' creditors are domestic, but from foreign companies.

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* Rosalde National Bank of New York, 1968.

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Very briefly:

• Qwest Communications International Inc. has offered use of its high-speed fiber-optic network, which runs from Los Angeles to New York, to the University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development, which is developing the next generation Internet. Cysco Systems Inc. and Northern Telecom Ltd. are also offering network equipment. The three companies' contributions are worth more than \$500 million. In exchange, they get to work with top researchers.

• Silicon Graphics Inc. will use Intel Corp. technology in its high-end computers and sell a 20 percent stake in its chipmaking unit to the public. The company, which faces fierce competition, will focus on the technical computing marketplace, which ranges from computer simulations of nuclear explosions to helping film makers create special effects images.

 Chrysler Corp. and Bayerische Motoren Werke AG have broken ground on a \$500 million joint venture in Brazil, Tritec Motors Ltd., which will produce engines for export. PepsiCo Inc. will be the exclusive soft-drink supplier to Walt Disney Co.'s new children's playgrounds and interactive game sites, as well as a new line of sports-themed restaurants.

• J. P. Morgan & Co.'s first-quarter operating income fell 14 percent to \$366 million. The earnings exclude a \$129 million charge for restructuring. Revenue rose 9 percent to \$2.0

Boeing Gets Order for United Jets

CHICAGO — UAL Corp. said Tuesday that it had ordered 23 wide-body planes valued at as much as \$3.2 billion from Boeing Co. as part of the airline's plan to increase capacity.

The Chicago-based parent of United Airlines ordered one 747-400, 16 777-200s and six 767-300s for delivery from 1999 to 2002. The order is valued at \$2.8 billion to \$3.2 billion, based on the list prices of the planes. Last month, United placed a \$1.4 billion order with Boeing's European rival, Airbus Industrie.

Dollar Slips In Shadow of **G-7 Meeting**

NEW YORK -- The dollar was little changed against the yen but fell against other major currencies Tuesday on concern that officials of the Group of Seven industrial nations, who meet Wednesday in Washington, would call for a strong yen.

The dollar also slid after eco-

nomic reports reinforced expectations that U.S. interest rates are not headed higher.

There's talk "there's going to be a communiqué saying the G-7 is concerned about the level of the dollar versus the yen," said Maureen Mc-Farland of MacKay-Shields Financial Corp. "It may not be explicit, but any mention of currencies is going to lead to a weaker dollar.' Some of that concern also stemmed from comments

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Haruhiko Kuroda, head of the International Finance Bureau of Japan's Ministry of Finance, who warned traders: "We have ample forex reserves. The market should be aware of forex risks."

In 4 P.M. trading, the dollar fell to 1.8014 Deutsche marks from 1.8238 DM on Monday, though it edged up to 129.640 yen from 129.555 yen.

The U.S. currency fell to 1.4930 Swiss francs from 1.5105 francs and to 6.0395 French francs from 6.1120 francs. The pound climbed to \$1.6850 from \$1.6681.

The dollar in the past year has typically fallen just before G-7 meetings on concern that the group is uneasy with the dollar's strength. The meeting Wednesday will bring together central bankers and finance ministers of the G-7, which groups Britain, the United States, Germany, France, Canada, Japan and Italy.

Japanese officials are expected to express concern over the yen's

The dollar was also undermined against the mark after Finance Minister Theo Waigel of Germany said he shared Japan's concern about the

The report fueled concern that the Bundesbank could join Japan in selling dollars. Meanwhile, a flat U.S. consumer-

price report and weak retail sales reports "play into the argument that Europe is picking up and the U.S. is slowing," said Roddy Graham of Morgan Stanley in London.
(Bloamberg, Bridge News)

he had, in a very public fashion, accepted Columbia's offer and had

Students Crack Cell-Phone Security Code

SAN FRANCISCO — A group of University of California computer researchers has successfully cracked the code used in most of the world's digital cellular telephones.

The method that was cracked is known as GSM, which stands for global system for mo-bile communication. GSM technology, which was designed to prevent the cloning of digital cellular phones, is employed in about 80 million of the devices worldwide. After about six hours of work, two graduate

students at the University of California at Berkeley and a computer cryptologist said, they were able to "clone" a phone, which could have allowed them to make unauthorized calls from another phone. The three used a computer to determine a secret number stored in the subscriber identity module, a credit-card-like device inside the phone.

Still, the amount of time and effort it took to clone the codes makes the digital phone security much more difficult to circumvent than that of analog cellular phones.

More intriguing than the security threat, the

used by GSM may have been intentionally weakened during the design process to permit government agencies to eavesdrop on cellphone conversations.

Although the key, known as A5, is a 64-bit encryption system — generally an extremely difficult code to crack — the researchers determined that the last 10 digits were actually zeros. That means that with the powerful computers available to national intelligence agencies, it would be possible to decode a voice conversation relatively quickly, said Marc Briceno, director of the Smartcard Developers

Association, a programmers' organization. "It appears the key was intentionally weakened," said Mr. Briceno, who worked with the two students in cracking the code. "I can't think of any other reason for what they did."

The computer industry has been rife with rumors about encryption designers having been persuaded or forced by government spy agencies to weaken communications security sys-tems or to install secret backdoors. Some of the

programmers said, was that cracking the code numors have had the National Security Agency had yielded a tantalizing hint that a digital key or Central Intelligence Agency posing as cryptographers, designing the programs themselves and then releasing them -all to ensure that they

could decode data or phone conversations.

Such rumors are fed, in part, by the hazy origins of the GSM system. Cryptographic specialists said the underlying mathematical formulas, or algorithms, in the encryption design were thought to have originated in either Germany or France as part of the creation of the standard in 1986 and 1987. But other than the hint Monday of an intentionally weakened system, little evidence has ever emerged to support speculation, and the researchers' suspicions were not universally endorsed.

"It's possible there are other reasons for doing this," said Stewart Baker, a Washington lawyer who formerly worked for the National Security Agency. The NSA is one of the agencies most often suspected of such schemes because a major part of its mission is to intercept telephone calls.

"Speculation is easy, and it never dies," Mr.

STOCKS: Tame U.S. Inflation Data Spur Strong Gains for Shares and Bonds

informed Harvard University of his senior level from a rival department

decision to resign. But according to since 1979 and had still been lick-

colleagues and friends with whom ing its wounds after Mr. Barro's

he spoke Monday, it appears to be announcement that he was decamp-

The mood at Harvard, which had Columbia University did not return

not suffered a successful raid at a phone calls seeking comment.

Continued from Page 13

ures showed. For the first quarter, sales rose 1.8 percent, up from a 0.1 percent rise in last year's final

Low unemployment and rising incomes suggest people have money to spend, so the tame reading in March could be nothing more than a "natural pause" for the economy, said Gary Thayer, an economist at A.G. Edwards & Sons in St. Louis.

In other reports, the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank said its monthly business-conditions index rose to 26.1 last month from 15.2 in February, suggesting that Southeastern in a few months."

By Sylvia Nasar

New York Times Service

about-face, Robert Barro, the Har-

vard economics professor and col-

umnist, has decided to back out of

a highly publicized, exceptionally

lucrative deal he had negotiated

The deal involved a pay pack-

It is not clear what motivated Mr.

Barro, 53, to back out weeks after

age of nearly \$300,000 and a pas-

with Columbia University.

sel of benefits.

NEW YORK - In a stunning

U.S. manufacturers had reported gains in production. U.S. stocks flitted with various

records as companies reported earnings that met forecasts and investors anticipated higher profits. Basic-materials companies such as Aluminum Co. of America and

International Paper were the biggest gainers. Eastman Kodak rose after reporting earnings that were not as bad as some investors had expected. 'The numbers that have come

out are pretty good," said Timothy Stevenson, a money manager with First Capital Group. "We could easily see the Dow rally to 10,000 with-

Harvard Professor Decides to Stay After All

"My sense is that it was emo-

tionally a big problem to make this move," said Elhanan Helpman,

referring to Mr. Barro's initial de-

cision to leave Harvard. Mr. Barro,

after all, had always professed to

return phone calls and electronic

Mr. Barro did not immediately

just a question of cold feet.

being quite happy there.

mail seeking comment.

April 14, 1998

The Standard & Poor's 500 Index growing 17 percent a year climbed 6.06 points to 1,115.75, and the Nasdaq composite index was up 18.06 at 1,843.01.

Kodak gained 3 11/16 to 70 11/16 even though its first-quarter profit of its medical devices and consumer tumbled 17 percent amid lower sales products declined. of its photographic film, higher marketing costs, and growing losses in its digital imagine business. After six straight declines in quarterly profit, investors were encouraged that earnings were roughly in line

with analysts' expectations.

Gillette fell 4 1/16 to 120 5/16 after it introduced a \$6 shaving system named Mach3. The shaver is intended to keep Gillette's profit

ing, was one of quiet vindication.

made its official announcement of

the professor's arrival on the front

page of The Columbia University

school, which had made a highly

organized and unusually concerted

effort to woo him, is clearly a ma-

ior embarrassment. Officials at

Mr. Barro's decision to jilt the

Columbia, meanwhile, had just

Johnson & Johnson fell 1 3/16 to 72 9/16 after the drugmaker said it earned 73 cents a share in the first quarter, matching expectations. Sales

Intel slipped 1/4 to 76 in the wake of its rally of 3.4 percent on Monday. The world's largest semiconductor maker reported after the market closed that first-quarter earnings came to 72 cents a share on a fully diluted basis, in line with estimates and down from \$1.10 a year earlier. It said first-quarter revenue was about \$6 billion, compared with \$6.4 billion. The company also said it would cut 3,000 jobs over the next

U.S. bonds rose after government reports on consumer prices and retail sales in March reinforced expectations for steady growth and subdued inflation.

"It's an opportunity to buy bonds; there is no inflation," said Alan Koepplin, a funds manager at Cowen Asset Management.

Bonds failed to score larger gains because of concern that Japan, one of the biggest holders of Treasury debt, might sell some of its holdings, traders said.

The Federal Reserve Board sold about \$12 billion in Treasury bills for an undisclosed customer Monday. Traders speculate that the seller was the Bank of Japan, which last week sold dollars to try to lift the (Bloomberg, AP)

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close The 300 most traded stocks of the day, up to the closing on Wall Street. AMEC TO A STATE OF THE STATE OF

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REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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BRITTISH POUND (CMER)
62.500 pounds, S per pound
July 99 1.6550 1.6560 1.5798.
Seg 98 1.6770 1.6552 1.6560
Ext. solars SUC.516 Mont's solare 5.650
July 99 1.6550 1.6560 1.798.
Seg 98 1.6770 1.6552 1.6560 UNLEADED GASOLINE (MMER)
42,000 gal. confix par gol
Mery 94 50.35 69.50 50.05 +0.2
Let 78 51.60 50.85 51.30 +0.0
Let 78 52.65 52.75 52.05 6.0
Aug 98 52.65 52.70 52.20 -0.1
Sep 98 52.60 51.71 52.12 -0.1
Cot 78 51.25 51.25 51.26 4.0
Nov 98 50.40 59.27 50.27 -0.3
Est. soles N.A. Mon's soles 18,738
Mon's open Int 117,514. up 1,008 GERMAN MARK (CMER) 125,000 merks, 5 per merk GASOIL (IPPE)
U.S. dollars per entric ion - lois of 100 ton
May 98 123-50 121,50 122,60 -2.55;
Jul 98 124,59 123-50 134,50 -2.75;
Jul 98 127,25 124,50 134,57 -3.00;
Aug 98 140,00 129,57 139-25 -3.00;
Sep 98 142,75 142,75 142,50 -2.75;
Oct 98 144,50 145,50 144,75 -3.25;
New 147,50 147,35 147,25 -2.25;
Est. soles: 13,000; Prest, soles: 12,229
Prest, open Int.: 137,247 up 1,087 berman rules (CWEIG)
125,000 morts, 5 per mork
1us 78 5580 5590 5599+0.0068 80,455
5ep 98 5e05 5590 5595+0.0068 2.701
Dec 98 5625 5613 5620+0.0068 54
Est, soles 30,300 Morrs soles 12,748
Morrs open lat 82,416, off 1,873 JAPANESE YEN (CALER) 12.5 million yan, 5 per 100 yen Jun 78 7830 7738 77 5ep 78 7730 7782 78 Dec 98 8015 7790 79 Est, solios 17,462 Morrs soles Morrs open lei 93,246, pf 3,77 SOURCE - PR of 100 pc 1 mg 92 54 92.51 589 98 97.71 97.46 97.55 589 98 97.48 97.65 98 97 97.46 97.55 98 97 97.46 97.55 98 97 97.46 97.55 98 97 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 97.46 97.55 97.69 9 FTSE 160 (LIFFE)

£25 per index point
Jun 98 6227.0 4130.0 6160.0 +11.0 151.435
Sap 98 6220.5 6220.5 6230.5 +11.5 6.811
Dec 98 N.T N.T 6333.0 +11.0 4 Prev. open hel: 80,275 up 1,69

3-MORTH EUROMARK (LIFFE)

3-MORTH RUROMARK (LIFFE)

3-MORTH RURO

> at the source, MATIF prices. were not available. FOR INVESTMENT INFORMATION THE MONEY REPORT very Saturday in the HIT

To Our Readers

Due to technical problems

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DRLD STOCK MARKETS

28 3 Year, 2017 P.

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Africa The chief pros deadline of 8 A.M. Wed.

ior, Bruce Morrison, told the intensive discussions during used ou observed. put pad

General Frank Kahn has littes the parties reach agree matter will proceed. a deadline came after hours A lett for the Truth and Restation and the 85-hear-off

on trial earlier Tuesday for store the commission, which man lights abuses committee

was adjourned for further a.y !! minutes it appeared STASE Would be reached that office to give testimony before d commission hearing. In re-

uted Stand?

e lest ten seurs across Europe in and Germany have const heir defense work in the hands of ompanies, and smaller counts red down their industries or soll a most case to Brush company gran past agalessive apout E. in detense entain. British Aerospace at

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care, education and care for children med Election and the elderly. ಪರ್ಮ, ಸಿಎಂ ಕ ಪ್ರಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಹಿಡು • dis -- military and contains growth of 3 percent this year, 3.1 percent in 1999 and 3.4 percent in 2000. The government plans to cut mer title lastic sindie-e arthur Arrivar with in the statement's always to the tobacco tax 27 percent. Sweden out the transfer Dutch purely has one of the highest tobacco taxes in Europe. Cigarette smuggling has or very contract the time skyrocketed in recent years to an LOT WITH COMPANY AND A SECOND estimated 150 million to 200 million ad ki est e di colli cigarettes a year, representing 250

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Banks and Retailers to Get Euro Guidelines BRUSSELS — The European Commission will issue guidelines

opt to use such 'dual display."

Sweden to Cut

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Agence France-Presse

pledges to increase social spending.

unemployment down to 4 percent by

Mr. Aasbrink forecast GDP

million kronor in lost tax revenue.

the end of 2000.

The commission will also call for

the setting up of monetary "ob-

Wednesday for banks and retailers official said. regarding the introduction next year Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, of the common European currency. Ireland, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain — are due to be selected In three recommendations, the at an EU summit meeting in May to commission, the European Union's start an economic and monetary unexecutive body, will set out its view of which services related to the curion next year. Britain, Denmark and Sweden have decided not to join the rency change the banks cannot or should not charge for and the way in monetary union at its outset, and which retailers should show prices in Greece does not meet the economic euros and existing currencies if they criteria for joining.

Although that union will start Jan. l and electronic and check payments can be made in euros from that date, euro notes and coins will servatories" to oversee the euro's not be brought into circulation until introduction in 11 European Union 2002, raising a number of logistical

nesses and government agencies to mendations are intended to clarify, counts into euro during and at the prepare for the euro's arrival, the the commission said.

The most controversial part of the likely to be that on banking charges. In a preparatory paper issued in February, the commission said it would issue a "standard of good practice," setting out services that banks would have to carry out free 1, 2002. of charge as well as those it should

not charge for.
The official said the standard would identify six services that the commission thought should be free - three governed by existing legislation and three "in the spirit" of the switch to the euro. Banks and consumer groups would be invited

to add to the list by negotiation. The recommendations include: end of the transitional period.

· Not charging for payments bepackage of recommendations is tween national currencies and the euro during and at the end of the transitional period. -

 Not charging for the conversion of an agreed amount of physical notes and coins into euros after Jan.

changeover is uncertainty about how long national currencies and new euro notes and coins will be in circulation together.

At the Madrid summit meeting in December 1995, EU leaders agreed that the period of dual circulation should be at most six months, but it was left to individual countries to set their own deadlines.

Saudi Prince Buys \$200 Million Stake In Satellite Firm

Compiled to Our Staff From Doparties

DUBAI - Prince Walced ibn Talal, a Saudi investor, has spent \$200 million to acquire a 13.7 percent stake in Teledesic LLC, a privately held company that plans to set up a \$9 billion satellite network, a spokesman for the prince said Tuesday.

Teledesic plans to provide Internet access, video conferencing and voice communication to companies through a network of 288 satellites, which is expected to enter service in 2002. Boeing Co. will build and deploy Teledesic's satellite network.

The company was founded in 1990 by Bill Gates, chairman of Microsoft Corp., and Craig McCaw, a pioneer in cellular telephones. Each man holds a third of Teledesic, and Mr. McCaw serves as the company's chairman. Boeing has 10 percent and individual investors hold the balance.

"The prince is very keen to invest in telecommunications around the world," said Amjed Shacker, a spokesman for Kingdom Holding Company Co., the prince's invest-

Analysts said the investment was a risk for the 40-year-old prince, whose holdings include stakes in News Corp., Netscape Communications Corp., Apple Computer Inc. and Citicorp. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

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Credit Mutuel To Buy State Stake in CIC

PARIS - Credit Mutuel will buy the government's 67 percent stake in Compagnie Financiere de CIC, Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-A major headache for banks and Kahn said Tuesday, ending a retailers planning for the monthslong contest and paving the way for further consolidation in

French banking.

The acquisition, valued at 13.4 billion francs (\$2.19 billion), will allow Credit Mutuel, which is owned by its depositors, to expand in consumer banking in its home market before the introduction of a common European currency in January.

Mutuel's bid surpassed offers from Societe Generale SA, France's biggest publicly traded bank, and ABN-AMRO Holdings NV of the Netherlands, although Societe Generale's shares surged 2.6 percent to close at 1,305 francs on speculation that it would have the winning bid.

The disappearance of foreign-exchange risk among the 11 nations joining the single currency is expected to stiffen competition, as banks will be better able to sell their products across borders. A spate of mergers in the United States has added to the consolidation pressure among banks seeking to compete internationally.

You need to have recurring and strong revenue in one's home market to help development internation-Marc Vienot, Societe Generale's honorary chairman, said before the government announcement. After it absorbs CIC, Credit Mu-

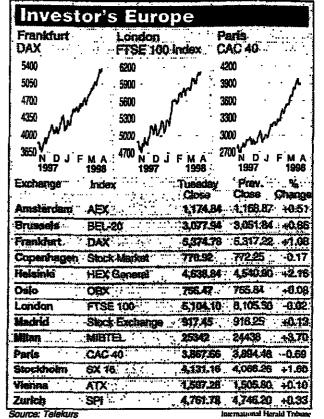
tuel will be able to operate through a network of 5,000 outlets, reaching more than 10 million clients.

CIC's labor unions favored the Mutuel bid because they feared that the two other bidders would aggressively cut the 21,000-person work force. They were particularly con-cerned about Societe Generale's bid because the bank had spoken openly about the need to reduce the number of employees in French banks.

Mr. Strauss-Kahn said Credit Mutuel has pledged to maintain the number of employees until 2003. The sale of CIC clears the way for a sale of its parent company, the stateowned insurer Groupe des Assurances Nationales. The government said bids for GAN, France's fifthlargest insurer, must be submitted by May 14. (Bloomberg, AFP)

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Very briefly:

• Volkswagen AG has filed a European court suit challenging a fine of 102 million European Currency Units (\$111 million) imposed by the European Commission, which ruled in January that VW had improperly barred its Italian distributor from selling cars to residents of Austria and Germany seeking to take advantage of lower prices in Italy.

· Adidas AG, a German sportswear maker, plans to delay its U.S. stock-exchange listing until the first or second quarter of 1999 to focus on its on its takeover of Salomon SA, a French ski-equipment concern.

• SAP AG's first-quarter sales soared 62 percent, to 1.67 billion Deutsche marks (\$915 million), amid demand for its R/3 business-management software, which accommodates accounting changes for the year 2000 and the switch to the European single currency.

• Telecom Italia SpA and RAI SpA plan to form a digital pay-television service in Italy to rival Canal Plus SA of France, Europe's biggest pay-TV operator. Canal Plus's shares tumbled 7 percent to close at 1,020 francs (\$167); Italy is a key market for the French company. • Britain's post office is considering making a bid for the

national lottery when Camelot Group's operating license comes up for renewal in 2001. Another potential bidder is Richard Branson, head of Virgin Group. Greece will sell its first 15-year fixed-coupon bonds May 18

as part of its effort to meet demand for long-term Greek debt and stretch the average maturity of its liabilities. • National Bank of Iceland's top three managers resigned after accusations of misuse of funds to pay for salmon-fishing

trips. The board of the National Bank, the country's largest commercial bank, appointed Halldor Kristjansson, a senior official at the Ministry of Commerce, to replace the trio as

member states and again urge busi- and legal problems that the recom- Not charging for converting ac-Increase Spending STOCKHOLM - The government presented a continuation of its tight fiscal policies Tuesday in its 1998 spring budget bill, pledging a budget surplus of 0.8 percent of gross domestic product this year despite Finance Minister Erik Aasbrink promised more money for health care and education, an increase in pensions and cuts in the tobacco tax and declared that the government would meet its target of bringing "Things are going well for Sweden," Mr. Aasbrink said. "The times of cutbacks are times of the past." The government pledged an additional 4 billion kronor (\$506.4 million) annually to municipalities in 1998, 1999 and 2000 for health

IN THE RED - Red paint, at left, staining the facade of United Bank of Switzerland in Zurich on Tuesday after protests against UBS's planned merger with Swiss Bank Corp.

Kuala Lumpur

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS Tuesday, April 14 MAN Mannesmonn Metaligesellschal Metaligesellschal Metaligesellschal Metaligesellschal Metaligesellschal Munch Rueck R Preusasg RWE RWE-DEA SAP Schenleg Schenleg Stembeta Springer (Anel) Thyssen Veba **≜**Amsterdam

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Markets Closed

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The Trib Index Prices as of 3.00 P.M. New York time. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100 Change + 0.85 + 16.12 -0.10+ 0.57 Europe 239.91 +3.78+ 1.60 +24.28N. America +0.55+0.23+12.91S. America + 0.97+0.62+ 235 + 0.77 + 17.37 242.46 +1.86Capital goods 232.28 -0.39-0.17+ 10.75 Consumer goods Energy Finance Miscellaneous 152.42 + 23.96 172.57 + 15.14 + 233 + 21.29 Raw Materials Service + 12.52

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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1998

ASIA/PACIFIC

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Continued from Page 1

tax system, Mr. Rubin said, "The key

question is not the level of the taxes

He added that "we are very much

looking forward to seeing the de-

tails" of Japan's stimulus measures.

Mr. Rubin and his Japanese coun-

Asked to comment on the Bank of

Japan's intervention in foreign-ex-

change markets last week to

strengthen the yen against the dollar,

"continues to believe that a strong

dollar is important." But he added:

"Having said that, Japan is con-

cerned about the weakness of the

and that is why we welcomed Ja-

The dollar came under pressure

dealers citing the fear of further

Bank of Japan intervention, Mr. Ru-bin's remarks and U.S. data show-

er major theme sounded by Mr.

Camdessus and Mr. Rubin Tuesday

was the need for finance ministers

from around the world to take steps

to strengthen the "architecture" of

The search for ways to learn from

the Asian crisis and from the Mex-

the global financial system.

Apart from Japan's woes, the oth-

pan's intervention last week."

ing stable prices.

terpart will hold a meeting here
Wednesday ahead of the G-7 gath"The Asia"

but the macroeconomic stimulus."

Q&A / James Wolfensohn

IMF: Japan Comes Under Pressure to Take Additional Action to Avoid Recession

Much of the work being done this last week after failing to honor the

crisis of problems in banking su- pay for capital will be affected by

IMF for better crisis prevention. He he argued that the IMF could not

also said that IMF members would make public "secret information

be asked to discuss ways of in- provided by a given country" even

volving the private sector in crisis if "this can from time to time pre-

cuss ways to "give more teeth to IMF to create mechanisms to ensure

On Tuesday, Mr. Rubin said the private-sector creditors and in-

yen, and that is a concern we share, policy-setting Interim Committee and lending conditions more trans- a tool in international finance."

Mr. Camdessus, asked whether

he thought Indonesia would stick to

the latest IMF rescue plan agreed

previous two programs, conceded that in Indonesia "there are vested

and sabotage it, and so you must stop

and start again."
But he warned that "they know

pretty well the cost of not accepting

most powerful enforcement me-

chanism is the market, because the

Mr. Rubin, while suggesting that "the IMF needs to make its analyses

parent," nonetheless rejected the

idea of forcing the IMF to publicly

Mr. Camdessus said that achiev-

ing more transparency was "a chal-

lenge, and we must do better." But

vent us from being as transparent as

Mr. Rubin also argued for the

that when a crisis hit a country,

vestors would "fully bear the con-

we would like to be."

Ultimately, said Mr. Rubin, "the

and adhering to it."

your policies."

interests that can conspire to delay IMF program.

special meeting of finance ministers from the G-7 and from 15 other Mr. Camdessus,

As top finance officials from around the world gather in Washington to discuss the lessons of Asia's economic crisis at the International Monetary Fund/World Bank annual spring meetings, there playment, poverty and food. But we not coordinated enough, that the is much talk of economics and less about the effect of the crisis on of banking systems. people in the region.

James Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank, stressed the social impact of the crisis with Alan Friedman of the International Herald and we wrote to central banks seeing

Q. There has been a fair amount us for two to three years. So far, we best of terms. of criticism about the World Bank have hired 14 new people, we have Asian crisis.

A. I don't think it is correct to say we were slow. We started to work on bank restructuring, supervision, cap-Mr. Wolfensohn says bank was beadline writers, things like the sothings that are less important for ital markets and related issues.

emerging economies in Asia, Latin

week on the architecture question

will find its way into the annual

economic summit meeting of G-7

leaders in Birmingham, England,

heels of Mexico's crisis," said Mr.

Camdessus, "showed the most ob-

vious weaknesses of the present sys-

tem." He listed these as its vul-

nerability to crisis, the speed of

Mr. Rubin said the United States contagion, the centrality in each availability of capital and price you

pervision and instances of bad gov-

Mr. Camdessus said the IMF's

would discuss ways to improve in-

formation and financial-data flows

it to press for the liberalization of

capital markets and how to equip the

The IMF chief said he expected

the Interim Committee to also dis-

IMF and other international finan-

IMF recommendations.'

ican financial crisis of 1995 are at cial institutions should "consider sequences of their decisions."

The dollar came under pressure that improved transparency, predict formal warnings of crises.

Tuesday in currency markets, with changes to the IMF's rules to allow Mr. Camdessus said that achiev

The Asian crisis, coming on the

America and Eastern Europe.

equally went in on the restructuring IMF, which is supposed to concen-We had 100 people in our fi- instead learned as it went along that nancial-services department when it faced structural problems of bank the crisis hit and I secured extra supervision and reforms that are funding, some \$25 million worth, really in your mandate. The word in

having been slow off the mark in the 80 offers out, and we will get 40 or the Fund to deal with macroeconom-50 more people in all. We are build- ic problems and putting out fires, and ing up that group so we can work on we should work on structural mea-Q. Another criticism has been

trate on macroeconomic policies, Washington is that the IMF and the next two to three years. That's what if they could spare people to work for World Bank have not been on the

A. I think it is the proper duty of sures. There were some initial difficulties between our organizations not slow to respond to crisis. cial impact of the crisis, like emthat were caused by pressures at the

President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea for sticking to tough reforms

and making data on the country's

financial system publicly available.

Mr. Rubin said the United States

was still discussing a possible loan

for South Korea to supplement the

Mr. Rubin also said that at the G-

meeting Wednesday the United

States would raise the issue of prob-

lems related to the preparation of

computer systems for the year 2000,

the dollar as a reserve currency or as

Jakarta Hopes

equipped to handle the matter.

some intemperate remarks made, but that was long ago.

Q. But in the case of Indonesia, the biggest problems have turned out to be private-sector corporate debt and banking reforms, more World Bank than IMF material.

A. Indonesia is a Fund rescue package, but our work has gone into it. Our job is less visible, less frontline. We are not a crisis institution: we work on what happens over the we do. We work on issues, as I said, that don't ger headlines, like the social impact of the crisis.

Q. Tell me about your socialimpact work in the most hard-hit crisis countries of Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea.

A. In these countries we are work-

ing on issues such as unemployment, health care, social safety nets, the plight of migrant workers. These are crucial to the stability of these countries. Actually, the record on reducing poverty in Indonesia has been excellent over the past 25 years. They have reduced from 60 percent to 11 percent of the population the number of people living on a dollar a day. But we are finding quite a lot of people living on just two or three dollars a day; and the effect of the crisis, according to our projections, will be to push poverty back up from 11 percent to about 20 percent of the Indonesian population. That's a swing of 20 million people.

Q. What kind of social problems

especially in terms of making sure are you working on? A. Let me give you an example. We have done a social assessment in national financial systems were well Asked what impact Europe's Thailand, and we discovered many planned single currency would have people returning from urban centers on the dollar, Mr. Rubin said, "I don't think it will adversely affect

to the rural countryside. So what happens? They lose their and no money. So they might take things, and that creates social tension, and then you have families who keep their kids at home to protect the house, and that keeps them from getting an education in school. Or you have families who are now so desperate that they sell their kids into prostitution or they send their kids out as prostitutes.

You know, confidence appears to be returning to the financial markets, and the crisis may be over, but can't transform a social system in five minutes.

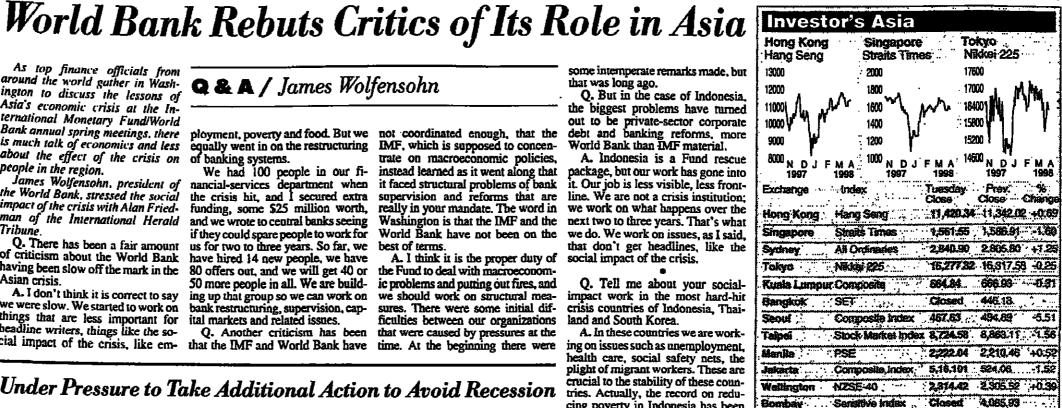
Q. What is the World Bank spending on these programs in the crisis countries?

A. In Korea, we have disbursed a activities, covering economic re-construction, bank restructuring, improvements of corporate governance but also a significant portion for emergency policy programs in the social area, for providing social safety nets, for education, health unemployment.

years, of which \$1 billion is devoted the automaker get back on its feet. to working on improving social safety nets and \$275 million on rural income and job improvement. In billion).

Thailand, we have \$1.5 billion of Credit \$300 million for direct social in-

tervention. Q. How long will your work on the aftershocks of the crisis go on? A. There will be three years of hard work, and the battle will only be



Very briefly:

 Japanese corporate bankruptcy liabilities surged 64.5 percent in the year that ended in March, to a postwar record of 15.1 trillion yen (\$117.78 billion), according to the private credit research agency Teikoku Databank. The number of such bankruptcies involving liabilities exceeding 10 million yen rose 17.4 percent, to 17,439.

• Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd.'s short-term credit rating of Prime-1 is under review for a possible downgrade by Moody's Investors Service Inc. as a result of the bank's profit warning. • Mitsubishi Chemical Corp. is acquiring for an undisclosed sum Hoechst AG's stakes in three of the companies' joint ventures, one each in Japan, Germany and the United States, putting the Japanese company in second place behind Du Pont Co. in the world's \$2.8 billion market for polyester film, which is used in food packaging and other applications.

jobs in the city, go back to the countryside, but they still have no work • Deutsche Bank AG will dismiss at least 100 more employees in Asia, after laying off 200, as it proceeds with a global reorganization begun this year that calls for as many as 9,000 job cuts over three years.

• Chinese tungsten carbide imports have been subjected to anti-dumping duties of 33 percent by the European Union.

 Hong Kong's industrial production fell 0.8 percent in 1997, with the metals industry posting the biggest decline, at 5.6 percent. Clothing output fell 3.8 percent, as did electrical products and the food, beverage and tobacco industry. Textiles output increased 2.4 percent.

• Publishing & Broadcasting Ltd., which is controlled by the family of Kerry Packer, canceled its planned magazine the resolution is far from over. You joint venture in Australia with Time Warner Inc.

> • Malayan United Industries Bhd. sold a 15.15 percent stake in South China Morning Post (Holdings) Ltd. for 1.34 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$172.9 million). It still owns 8.14 percent of the Hong Kong newspaper publisher. AFP. Bloomberg. Reuters

the top of the agenda this week in the conditioning access to loans on Both the U.S. Treasury secretary IMF and G-7 meetings and at a countries' willingness to improve and the IMF chief heaped praise on All 1,000 Kia Managers Resign total of \$5 billion for a range of T-BILLS: Traders Think Japan Was Behind Record Sale

Continued from Page 1

and sells securities on behalf of other central banks, this was the first time such a customer operation had ever been channeled through the

Fed's automated trading system. \$900 million shy of the amount of bills the Treasury sold at its regular Monday afternoon auction later in the day.

"It was about 9:45 A.M. when the Fed first posted the offering," said Glen Capelo, a trader at Salomon Brothers' New York primary dealership, one of the designated government securities firms with which the New York Fed deals regularly and whose financial condition

enter a bid for the large number of spokesman. In essence, that means different securities being sold in getting the best possible price.

The huge sale — and the potential in the securities are the potential in the securities are the

Mr. Capelo said. ever seen anything like this before. analysts said. We hadn't seen the magnitude, nor Because the U.S. federal budget

that way." Normally, the Fed does not make ing this tax-paying season, it has public the total amount of securities begun to cut back on its auctions of it wants to sell for a customer, new securities. making the total known may have billion-dollar transactions. Analysts won the Bank of Japan a better price said putting the \$12.1 billion of bills than if the Fed had tried to sell the on the market could relieve that

securities in repeated waves.

We act as an agent, and our the bank constantly monitors.

"We had half an hour, to 10:15, to show our numbers" — that is, to

The huge sale - and the potential for others to follow - could ease a "It was the first time we have looming problem for bond traders,

is getting huge inflows of cash dur-

though traders at the primary dealers That has created a shortage of could easily add up the list of those some of the securities that global being offered. But some traders said investors use as collateral for multiproblem.

Going forward, Mr. Capelo said.

To Keep Control Of State Firms Compiled by Our Staff From Dispus ha

JAKARTA — Indonesia wants to maintain controlling interests in state-owned companies earmarked for privatization under a new reform deal with the International Monetary Fund, a cabinet minister said Tuesday.

Tanri Abeng, the minister in charge of state-owned compa-nies, said a study of the readiness of 12 companies for pri-vatization would be released April 24. He added that President Suharto had ordered the government not to allow its stakes in any of the companies

to drop below 51 percent. Mr. Abeng said the government would cooperate with the World Bank and the IMF on the to ensure transparency.

Indonesia signed the new agreement with the IMF last week setting out a timetable for economic reform measures in return for \$43 billion of aid.

Separately, analysts said prospects were positive for talks scheduled Wednesday in New York between indebted Indonesian companies and representatives of the foreign banks that lent them \$71 billion. (AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

SEOUL - All 1,000 management personnel at Kia Motors

Corp. resigned Tuesday in a move to put pressure on creditors and foil a possible sale of the company. The resignations followed a decision by Kia's union mem-

and in dealing with the effects of bers to strike if creditors decided to sell the company. "We have exhausted efforts to save our company by In Indonesia, we have committed swallowing pay cuts, "a union leader complained, demanding 4.5 billion over the next three that President Kim Dae Jung keep his election pledge to help

> Kia filed for receivership last year when its parent group collapsed under debts of more than 10 trillion won (\$7.2

Creditors have appointed Yoo Chong Yul as Kia's sole funds committed, and we are using receiver. That allows a Seoul district court to initiate receivership procedures. The standoff weakened sentiment among stock investors. Seoul's composite stock-market index dived 5.5 percent to close at 467.63 points.

Economic officials met last week to discuss options, including the sale of Kia Motors through an open tender after

hard work, and the battle will only be won three years from now. It may not make headlines, but that is what it takes to implement these programs.

Traditions are that it allow the issue of new shares.

Creditors welcomed the idea of selling off Kia Motors and its sister company Asia Motors Co. together, saying that it would give Kia a better chance of survival. But Kia officials resisted.

LAND: Betting on Argentina

Argentina at a dizzying pace. It is also helping restore the capital's shabby river waterfront to a splendor not seen in

Argentina can produce meat,
wheat and milk cheaper than 60 years. Abasto, a sprawling the United States," said Osneighborhood known until recently for muggings and seedy tango bars, is suddenly gentrifying as the Elsztain brothers begin to build a giant high-rise middle-class housing project abutting an even larger shopping center complete with a dozen movie theaters and a children's museum. IRSA last year swallowed

up its biggest competitor and acquired assets valued at more than \$350 million, bolstering its real-estate portfolio in six decades, and with Japan to an estimated value of \$800 expected to follow soon, inmillion, according to a recent report by Bear Stearns Cos.
Now, with local parmers in
Venezuela and Brazil, the

company is taking its mall empire outside Argentina. climbed 80 percent, to more The cover of its last annual report showed a key entering a current annual grain output of lock in the shape of the entire 60 million tons is expected to South American continent.

The Elsztains say the economic upheaval in Asia is little foreign analysts. long term, they contend, the sprawling pampas of Argentina will feed a growing Brazil, a Europe that must cut its immore than a speed burnp. In the mensely expensive agricultural subsidies and an Asia that will continue to move away American depositary receipts from an agrarian production system as it industrializes.

In recent years, as the Ar-In recent years, as the Algentine government has
slashed farm export taxes,
land prices have rapidly apland prices have rapidly apland prices have rapidly appreciated. Nonetheless, they remain considerably less exland prices have rapidly apremain considerably less capersive than comparable up 25 cents, and IRSA at lands in Canada and the \$36.0625, unchanged.

er gradistari

Continued from Page 13 United States. The company Escorts & Guides stands to gain from a further buildings and hotels around escalation of land values, lo-

cal and foreign analysts say. "The Elsztains know that valdo Cortesi, an agricultural economist at Macroeconomica, a research organization. "They know that as agribusi-

ness expands in Argentina, land prices will rise.' Argentina's share of world beef exports has already doubled since 1993, in large

part because of a 400 percent increase in exports to Brazil. With the United States last year opening its market to Ar-gentine beef for the first time ternational experts say the future for Argentine beef growers looks even brighter.

Since 1990, the country's agricultural exports have than \$9 billion last year. Its climb to 80 million tons in 2000, according to local and

Nevertheless, the Elsztains months, jolting Cresud, which is traded in the form of on the Nasdaq market, and IRSA, which is traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

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NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of DICAM WORLD WIDE INVESTMENT FUND, SICAV will be held at the offices of Banque Générale du Luxembourg S.A., 50, Avenue J.F. Kennedy, in Luxembourg, on 24 April 1998 at 2.00 p.m. for the purpose of considering and voting upon the following matters:

To hear:

 a) the management report of the directors;
 b) the report of the auditor.

 To approve the statement of net assets and the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year ended 31 December 1997.
 To discharge the directors with respect to their performance of duties during the year ended 31 December 1997.
 To elect the directors and the auditor to serve until the next annual general meeting of shareholders.
 Any other business.

The shareholders are advised that no quorum for the statutory

general meeting is required and that decisions will be taken at the majority of the shares present or represented at the meeting. In order to take part at the statutory meeting of 24 April 1998, the owners of bearer shares will have to deposit their shares five clear days before the meeting at the registered office of the Fund or with the following bank: Banque Générale du Luxembourg 50, Avenue J.F. Kennedy, Luxembourg.

The Board of Directors

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The 1,000 most traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.

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WORLD ROUNDUP



Muster keeping a careful eye on the ball against Filippini.

Muster Holds Form

TENNIS Thomas Muster continued to show improved form Tues-day when he beat Marcelo Filippini, a Uruguayan, in the first round of the Barcelona Open.

Muster had been struggling, but he reached the final of the Estoril Open last week. He was in unusually relaxed mood Tuesday as he won, 6-3, 2-6, 6-2. "Last year I hardly reached a quarterfinal on clay," he said, "so I'm already doing 200 percent better.

Yevgeni Kafelnikov, the top seed, also needed three sets to beat Francis Roig of Spain in the second

Cowboys Take Warren

FOOTBALL Chris Warren, a freeagent running back, agreed to a three-year, \$2 million contract with the Dallas Cowboys. Warren, 30, was released by Seattle last month after it signed Ricky Watters. (AP)

Maxwell Starts Jail Term

BASKETBALL Vernon Maxwell, the Charlotte Hornets guard, began serving a 90-day jail sentence in Houston resulting from a 1995 marijuana possession case. (AP)

Stars Sign Injured Star

HOCKEY The Dallas Stars signed injured center Mike Modano to a six-year, \$43.5 million contract. Modano rejected a six-year, \$26 million offer in September. (AP)

Strawberry Blossoms

BASEBALL Darryl Strawberry, the New York Yankee outfielder, was selected player of the week for the first time in seven seasons after hitting three homers and driving in eight runs last week.

Aussies Salvage Pride

CRICKET Australia beat India by four wickets Tuesday in New Delhi in the final of a tri-nation one-day tournament

India had beaten Australia in a test series and twice in the preliminary rounds of the one-day tournament. India batted first and made 227 in 49.3 overs. Australia reached 231 for six with eight balls to spare. Mark Bevan was top scorer with 75 not out and captain Steve Waugh hit a rapid 57. (AP)

Striker With a Goal: **Turning Juve's Tables**

Del Piero Wants Big Money and Wants It Now

By Rob Hughes

LONDON - Disloyalty cuts both ways in professional soccer.

For three successful years, Juventus has operated a policy of vendere e vincere, sell and win. This works on the principle that players are as easily re-placed as lightbulbs. Season by season the club has sold its star strikers two by two, buying cheaper replacements and relentlessly maintaining omnipotence in Europe, never mind in Italy. Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravan-

elli — who made up the attack that won the Champions' Cup in 1996 — were discarded: Ravanelli, his value lifted by success at Juventus, for \$11 million profit; the veteran Vialli to get him off

Alen Boksic and Christian Vieri, their replacements, helped Juve to retain the Italian title and reach the Champions'

Cup final last spring; they were sold.

Also thanked for their services, and bid goodbye, were Roberto Baggio, Vladimir Jugovic and, before them Andy Moeller, Paulo Sousa and Pierluigi Casiraghi. Yet Juventus still leads Italy's Serie A, still frightens everyone else in the Champions' League where on Wednesday it takes an almost unassailable 4-1 lead into the second leg of its semifinal against Monaco.

Now, however, a player has struck

Alessandro Del Piero, who scored three of those goals in the first leg against Monaco and made the fourth is, through the inevitable agent, holding a gun to Juve's head. He wants his pay more than doubled, and wants the deal signed and sealed by June. His contract runs for two more seasons, but if he does not sign again with Juve by then he will become the most sought-after free agent in Europe in the year 2000.

To emphasize his point, to drive home to the money men of Turin just how free he might be, fabulous Del Piero was in London last week. His adviser made sure there was a photographer around when his boy dined at the exclusive San Lorenzo restaurant with Vialli, who is now player-coach at Chelsea.

This of course was not poaching. Vialli was a mentor to Del Piero in their time together at Juventus. Can't an old pal show his friend the Knightsbridge night life without being accused of wheeling and dealing? As it happens, the money in soccer is nowadays with England's elite clubs, which, playing existing satellite television off against the potential digital rivals, can attract all

but the most discerning foreigners. Ronaldo hasn't — yet — offered his favors to London. Give him, or his posse of salesmen, time. They've done Eindhoven, done Barcelona and are currently doing Milan. Ronaldo has been worth his weight in gold and goals to each club in turn. He is still only 21 and commands an annual salary of \$4 million plus. Del Piero, 23, would rather

like something similar.
Thus, while Del Piero is in mid-contract, and while his European form is in full bloom, does a gentleman called Andrea D'Amico put the squeeze on

D'Arnico, representing the legal firm that advises both Vialli and Del Piero. accompanied the Juventus star of the moment to London.

Road club Chelsea for \$27 million. In truth, Chelsea, already the home of Vialli and Roberto di Matteo and Gian-franco Zola, probably could not satisfy the wage demands of Italy's most wanted star.

But perhaps Arsenal, in north Lon-don, could. Further north in England, where the class of restaurants might not appeal to one of Europe's most de-sirable bachelors, Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers, Middlesbrough and Glasgow Rangers flatter themselves that the golden one might associate himself with their teams.

Having made his leak, agent D'Amico insisted: "People cannot think that Alex gets involved in these things. He can only play for the moment and think for the moment. Alex is not someone who has to take this decision.

No? The Del Piero side of the story is that it is Juventus that wants him to sign an extension to the contract because the club wants to protect its assets.

Who could blame Del Piero's management for exploiting the situation? He is an extraordinary player, a young Italian whose 19 goals in three European seasons eclipses the records of Marco van Basten, of Michel Platini, indeed of every goalscorer bar one — Jose Altafini, a Brazilian who became an Italian national and who crowned some great European conquests for Milan and Inventus in the 1960s.

So there is Del Piero, imperious with his right foot free-kicks from any distance up to 35 meters, deadly from the penalty spot and a slender thief of the night in free-play goalscoring positions. He knows, and his agents know, that the time to negotiate is now before, God forbid, a broken leg or merely broken form, makes him another of yesterday's men to be moved on by Juventus.

It would be fun to be a fly on the Juventus wall in the next few weeks when Team Del Piero, the lawyers representing the player, meets at the table of Luciano Moggi and Roberto Bettega, the duo who have so efficiently and so ruthlessly sold such a string of match winners. Bettega was an elegant Juventus player and is an elegant man. Moggi has been likened to Machiavelli, which might be unkind to Machiavelli.

The players Moggi has sold will shed no tears as Del Piero's men squeeze Juventus until it hurts to keep him. Rob Hughes is chief sports writer for The Times of London.

■ Let 'Em Come, France Says

Michelle Demessne, the French tourism minister, on Tuesday contradicted advice by the British government to soccer fans, Agence France-Presse reported. Speaking in London, she told British fans to come to France for the World Cup even if they did not have tickets.

She said: "Outside the football stadiums France is celebrating and we want as many people as possible to take

part in that.' Another French official contradicted British warnings that all tickets would carry the name and address of the purchaser and supporters presenting them.

"All tickets sold do not have a name and address with them necessarily," said Fabien Roussel, a tourism press officer. "There will not be a check of the identity of the person who presents them necessarily.

Tony Banks, the British sports min-Perhaps dinner at San Lorenzo's was purely social, but it led to lurid articles travel" warning to fans: "We are urgin Italy, announcing that young "Alex" ing fans who do not have a ticket from Del Piero was on his way to the King's an authorized source to stay at home." ing fans who do not have a ticket from



WHEN PUSHES COMES TO SHOVE — Dmitri Khlestov of Spartak Moscow, left, nudging ahead of Ronaldo of Inter Milan as they chased the ball in Moscow on Tuesday. The Russians could not hold Ronaldo who scored twice as Inter won, 2-1, to advance to the final of the UEFA Cup 4-2 on aggregate. Both teams struggled on a field of mud and sand. The grass had been bulldozed off with the snow that had threatened the match.

What Future for the Stade de France?

By Christopher Clarey

OR MORE than eight centuries, the most famous structure in the Paris suburb of St. Denis has been its basilica: an early Gothic marvel that was once a burial plot for French kings. But there is a new building in town -the Stade de France, as elliptical as the

basilica is venerable. During soccer's World Cup in June and July, the place that will host the first and final matches of the Cup will attract many more people than the house of worship. The huge arena's role after the World Cup is much less clear, however.

For the moment, the globe's newest major stadium has 80,000 seats, rave reviews from architecture critics - as well as from the International Olympic Committee's president, Juan Antonio Samaranch — and no tenant.

While three French soccer clubs, all in the second division or lower, are candidates, it is clear that the only team in the French capital capable of doing the stadium immediate justice is Paris-Saint Germain, the most consistently successful French soccer club in the 1990s. But after a lot of soul-searching and number-crunching, PSG elected last week to remain in the Parc des Princes, the 48,000-seat stadium in the

city's 16th arrondissement. The club's reasoning was the fol-lowing: It rarely fills the Parc, so how could it fill something bigger?

Indeed, with considerable difficulty, it has established a loyal fan base. Why risk alienating those hard-won supporters by moving north and outside the city

In exchange for declining a rent-free, stade-of-the-art marvel, PSG has received assurances from Jean Tiberi, the Paris mayor, that at least 150 million francs (\$24.6 million) will be spent to

upgrade and modernize the Parc. Unlike some U.S. football teams which have moved to new, far-away cities, this was a choice between two

stadiums in the same metropolitan area: one ostensibly superior to the other. For a people that has long valued civic grandeur, it was a surprisingly reasonable choice.

"The French are irrational; that's what's irritating," said Pierre Parisot, the Frenchman who is president of the consortium that runs the Stade de France.

↓ HARLES Bietry, the television executive who is PSG's new chief administrator, said: "Let me be clear about this — we are not staying at the Parc out of spite."

Bietry said he was initially in favor of uprooting and broadening his club's appeal but said that he now thought the Parc could be turned into a more exciting place to watch soccer. "In two years, it will be a stadium in the English style or, better yet, the Parisian style with resources we cannot yet imagine. It will be a center of life and diversion."

The Stade de France, which cost approximately 2.5 billion francs and was funded by the state and a private consortium, will not be devoid of life. The national soccer team has agreed to play there for the next 15 years. So has the national rugby federation, although it has since contested the terms of its agreement. There will be concerts this year by the aging global rock icons, The Rolling Stones, and the aging local rock icon, Johnny Hallyday. All this will fill approximately 15 dates a year, which leaves quite a few free for fretting over

the bottom line. "Eight of the world's 20 biggest stadiums don't have resident clubs," Parisot said. "Wembley does not have one. Does that mean it is a failed project?'

But the gap between Paris and Lon-don, where Wembley Stadium lies, is mammoth in sporting terms. While London supports six Premier League soccer teams, Paris supports one first-division team and its suburbs support none, which makes it even more surprising that a club of PSG's caliber rarely sells out a 48,000-seat stadium.

Virtual Race Becomes Real for Cyclist

While there are pockets of passion such as Marseille and Lens, average crowds in the French first division are roughly half the size of those in Germany, Italy and England. Most of the top French players, including Zinedine Zid-ane, Youri Djorkaeff and Lilian Thuram, have left their domestic league for bigger contracts in those nations or Spain. where clubs have greater resources and

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less oppressive tax burdens. The question is whether PSG's reluctance to expand its horizons has cemented France's minor-league status in European soccer.

"To create a club for the Stade de France will take at least five years. Noel Le Graet, president of the French league, told France Football magazine.

Le Graet said this was a missed opportunity for French soccer. "For PSG, it was not a move to go to the Stade de France. There were possibilities for growth that seemed essential. PSG simply refused to play along. I am disappointed and disillusioned. Only Paris can approach FC Barcelona or AC Mi-

All three clubs that have bid to play in the Stade are in the lower reaches of French soccer and none will be promoted next season. Red Star is near the bottom of the second division. Le Racing Club de France 92 and Saint-Denis-Saint-Leu are in the bottom half of the third division. Though all three clubs have announced plans to reinforce recruiting and merge with powerful corporate partners, it is difficult to imagine any of these clubs drawing 8,000 fans, much less 80,000, or even what Parisot considers the break-even number of 25,000.

The result is that the much-solicited French taxpayer will have to pay more for this architectural gem than planned. But Parisot remains sanguine about the future. "We think that in four or five years, PSG runs the risk of being the second

club in the Paris region." he said. Until then, St. Denis's new and very expensive playground will remain the region's second stadium.

Jordan 'Loses It' **And Pacers Win**

CHICAGO — Michael Jordan momentarily lost his cool, and the Chicago Bulls the ball at Indiana's Mark

throughout the playoffs. The Indiana Pacers, meanwhile, showed they were ready for the playoffs and that

home-court

NBA ROUNDUP

they could not only defend Jordan but beat Chicago on its that often. "We wanted to make them

do things they're not used to. We were sure they'd make they'd go to the hole, we knew we'd have to put a body on them," Reggie Miller said · after the Pacers beat the Bulls 114-105 Monday night.

Miller and Jalen Rose Pacers forced Jordan into 7-

of-19 shooting. The loss, just the fourth at home in 40 games for Chicago this season, hurts the Bulls' chances of having the league's best overall record. Chicago is 60-19 overall, compared with

59-19 for Utah. . The Pacers moved one game ahead of Miami in the race for the No. 2 seed in the stop me." Eastern Conference. The the top spot in the East.

Scottie Pippen scored 28 points and Jordan, who got a technical foul for throwing lost a key game in the race for Jackson, had 27. Fouled by advantage Jackson as he was driving to the basket in the third quarter. Jordan fired the ball and hit Jackson in the head. "I'm not immune to that

situation, normally I try to keep a level head in that situ-ation and that time I lost it," Jordan said. "You won't see Lakers 99, Spurs 75 in San

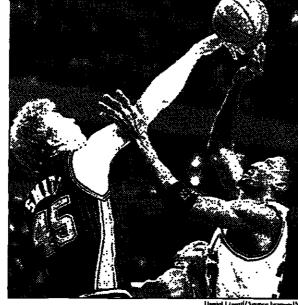
Antonio, Shaquille O'Neal had 28 points and 16 rebounds to lead Los Angeles to the cold-shooting Spurs. With the Lakers leading

handily in the fourth quarter, the game was halted twice in less than 45 seconds for fighting. Will Perdue and Monty scored 22 points each, and the Williams for San Antonio, and Derek Fisher and Nick Van Exel for Los Angeles were ejected.

"Maybe they got a little NBA nobody hits anybody finishing with 16 points, 10 frustrated, but they started sort of fight. Nobody got hurt taking cheap shots at our and that's the main thing."

Timberwolves 107, Cippers point guards," said Shaquille O'Neal, who was 11-for-16

Bulls already have clinched 4:46 remaining and resulted in McCloud scored 23 points sured of finishing with a 500



great plays, but every time a fight-marred victory over The Pacers' Rik Smits, left, blocking Scottie Pippen.

Fisher, who pushes after Kobe Bryant's dunk shot. Van Exel and Williams were ejected for fighting 44 seconds later after a missed 3-point shot by Van Exel. "It early to sweep the four-game was no big deal," said Gregg Popovich, the San Antonio coach. "It was your typical

without David Robinson, from the field, "They tried who was injured, was led by thony Peeler added 21 as Mintaking cheap shots at me, but Tim Duncan with 26 points I'm unbreakable. Nobody can and 16 rebounds.

Suns 105, Warriors 97 In already clinched their second The first fight came with Oakland, California, George straight playoff berth, are asthe ejections of Perdue and and the Suns won their sea- record for the first time.

exchanged son-high ninth straight game. Antonio McDyess added 22 points and Cliff Robinson had 21 for the Suns, who rallied from 16 points down season series with the War-riors. Jason Kidd just missed a 19th career triple double.

San Antonio, which played 88 In Los Angeles, Kevin Gar-rithout David Robinson, nett scored 23 points and Annesota won its fifth straight. The Wolves, who have

Native Guatemalan Finds the Paris-Roubaix Fun, but Tough By Samuel Abt

PARIS - For a rider in his first Paris-Roubaix bicycle race. Anton Villatoro could almost say beforehand, "been there, done that." And he had — almost. *Every winter in Colorado, with two feet of snow outside, I trained inside to the video of the race," he explained. "Many, many times. This particular race."

Since winter runs a long time in Colorado, Villatoro, 27, figured he had logged many miles in Paris-Roubaix even before he started one for real Sunday with the U.S. Postal Service team. This race is more important to me

than riding in the Tour de France or the world championships," he said. "I'm here because I want to be. This is a dream of mine, more of a dream of mine than the Tour de France.

Afterward, although he had to drop out about halfway along the 266.5-kilometer (165-mile) course, he was still enthusiastic. "It was fun," he decided. "We had a few problems on the team, crashes and all, but I'm happy with my performance.

Villatoro made a bit of history in Paris-Roubaix when he became what is helieved to be the first native of Guatemala to participate. He was born there to a Guatemalan father and an American mother and lived there as a small child before his family moved to Colorado Springs, where he went to high school. He graduated from the University of Colorado in Boulder in 1992 with a degree in

international business and marketing. As a dual national, he rode in the 1996 Olympics for Guatemala, finishing 25th in the time trial, halfway in the field,

"not bad for the first year." Last year he won two stages in the Tour of Guatemala and three races in the United States in a mainly domestic program. This season he will have more of a European schedule, with appearances in several spring World Cup classics, the

Tour de l'Oise, the Prudential Tour of Britain and the Vuelta a Espana. Discussing Paris-Roubaix in advance, he insisted he was not intimidated by the race's 50 kilometers of cobblestones.

"This is Paris-Roubaix," he said, "but it's still a bike race. In the United States, everyone thinks this is the only race on cobblestones. Then you come over here and realize that a lot of the Belgian races, the Four Days of Dunkirk, the Tour of Flanders, they're all on cobblestones, too,"

He rode the previous Sunday in the Tour of Flanders, his first World Cup race during his three seasons as a professional with U.S. Postal Service, and he had an exploit: When a group of 15 riders made the first attack and stayed out front for a couple of hours, Villatoro

was among them.
"The team wanted to make sure we weren't put in the position where we would have to chase all day" if a Postal Service rider had not been among the breakaway riders. Villatoro was not only protecting his team's leaders but also enjoying himself.

"It was exciting to be in front of the race and experience the crowd," he said. More than halfway through, his legs gave out and he was left behind in the Belgian countryside.

"This sport is so strange, how you can go from an all-time high to an alltime low in one race," he said. "It was first part, and then I was off the back, dropped, didn't know where I was, didn't know where I was going or how I was going to get there.

It all worked out when, unusually, a driver gave him a lift to the finish line in time for Villatoro to reach the team hotel and watch the finish of the race TV. Referring to the long breakaway, he

hoped for a similar exploit in Paris-Roubaix. "I did my job in Flanders and did it well, so I was really satisfied. I'm looking for the same here: My personal goal is not only to help the team but finish and be a part of the race. "I feel I did that at the Tour of Flanders. I could have sat back and maybe I would have been dropped any-

way or I could have finished in the pack in 40th place, but I don't know if people would remember me as much as being part of the race." He knew what he had to do for the team: 'Make sure our contenders get to the cobbles with the front group and then be there with them in case they

need any assistance. Go out into the wind and help them get to the front." Villatoro felt later that he did his job. 'There was quite a bit of crosswinds and we kept trying to get our guys to the front," he said. The U.S. Postal Service's three contenders — Slava Ekimov, George Hincapie and Frankie Andreu - all completed the race, with

Ekimov the highest placed at 22d. Unlike his indoor sessions with the Paris-Roubaix video. Villatoro was not there at the finish. For his next exploit, he will have to wait until Wednesday, in 4. the Fleche Wallonne, or Sunday, in the Liege-Bastogne-Liege classic.

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affic Routes ad Redesign Griffey's 300th Can't Save Seattle Bullpen Fails Again as Indians Roar Back From 3-Run Deficit to Win

run, but Seattle's bullpen once again failed to protect a lead as the Mariners lost, 6-5, in Cleveland

Griffey hit a pair of two-tun homers on Monday night, and his second - in the seventh off Jose Mesa - made him the second-youngest player ever to reach 300.

The All-Star center fielder, who has hit at least 40 homers in four different seasons, is 28. Jimmie Foxx was 27 when he hit his 300th. Foxx hit 534 roundtrippers during his Hall of Fame career.

Griffey's first homer, combined with a solo shot in the sixth by David Segui, gave the Mariners a 3-0 lead. But the Indians scored six runs in the sixth. taking a 6-3 lead on Brian Giles's threerun homer off Bobby Ayala.

Earlier on Monday, the Mariners fired their pitching coach, Nardi Contreras, replacing him with Stan Williams. The move came a day after Seattle's bullpen blew its second save of the weekend in Boston.

Griffey said he was pleased about his slugging but more concerned about Seattle's 3-9 start. 'I just don't like losing,' Griffey said. "No matter what happened, a loss is a loss."

The Mariners' bullpen is 0-2 with no saves. In 3224 innings it has yielded 27 earned runs for a 7.44 earned-run av-

Rangers 10, Tigers 1 Lee Stevens hit three home runs, and Bobby Witt got his 100th career victory as a Ranger as Texas beat visiting Detroit.

Stevens hit solo homers in the second and fifth before connecting on a two-run shot in the seventh for his first threehomer game. He walked in the eighth

attempting to become the 13th player ever to hit four home runs in a game. Juan Gonzalez added a two-run homer for the Rangers, who have won

four of five. Devil Rays 13, Twins 12 Robert Smith homered in the 14th inning, and Esteban Yan closed with five perfect innings as Tampa Bay overcame a six-run deficit

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

to win at home against Minnesota. Smith connected off Mike Trombley for

Red Sox 6, Athletics 3 In Boston, Bret Saberhagen continued his comeback, and Mo Vaughn homered, sending Oakland to its fourth straight loss.

Saberhagen (2-0) sat out all of 1996 after surgery on his right shoulder and spent most of last season in rehabilitation. He allowed two runs and two hits in six innings in chalking up the victory.

Royals 11, Blue Jays 1 Glendon Rusch got his first victory in Kansas City, and arry Sutton, Shane Mack and Mike Swenney each homered for the Royals.

In National League games:
Marlins 7, Pirates 2 Florida broke an 11-game losing streak, the longest in team history, behind Derrek Lee's second grand slam in a week.

"It's good to hear noise in here," Gregg Zaun said of the Marlins' upbeat clubhouse after they won in Pittsburgh. 'An 11-game losing streak is probably the longest I've ever been part of."

At 1-11, the Marlins were off to the worst start ever by a defending World Series champion.

Lee's grand slam and Cliff Floyd's two-run double were the highlights of a six-run third inning by Florida that

league victory. He gave up one run and six hits in six innings.

Rockies S, Reds 4 Colorado won its first home game this season, rallying behind Vinny Castilla's three-run homer off the left-field foul pole in the seventh. The Rockies, who also had a four-run eighth, snapped an eight-game losing streak.

Giants 8, Cardinals 2 In San Francisco, Barry Bonds hit his first homer of the season. Eli Marrero and Willie McGee of the Cardinals hit solo homers in the ninth off Julian Tavarez.

Phillies 11, Braves 8 Rico Brogna hit two homers and drove in five runs as Philadelphia rallied from a 7-1 deficit against visiting Atlanta and won for the sixth time in seven games.

The Phillies scored four unearned runs in the fifth and six unearned runs in the seventh. Brogna's three-run homer in the seventh broke a 7-7 tie. Padres 1, Diamondbacks 0 Archi

Cianfrocco homered and Andy Ashby pitched a four-hitter as the Padres improved to 11-2, the best start in franchise istory. Brian Anderson threw a threehitter for visiting Arizona.

Dodgers 3, Astros 1 In Los Angeles, Hideo Nomo scattered five hits in seven innings, and Wilton Guerrero hit a tworun single to break a 1-1 tie in the seventh.

Raul Mondesi singled off Jose Lima to start the seventh and was hit by Todd Zeile's grounder on a hit-and-run play. Mondesi wasn't called out because, according to a seldom-invoked rule, there would have been no play on the ball. Zeile was credited with a single and both runners scored on Guerrero's



The Dodgers' Hideo Nomo winding up to deliver a pitch to a Houston batter in the second. Los Angeles won, 3-1.

Is Yankee Stadium Crumbling? New York Times Service

NEW YORK - A 500-pound concrete-and-steel beam suspended beneath the upper deck of Yankee Stadium came loose and crashed into the empty seats below it, prompting city officials to close the stadium. As a result, the New York Yankees had to postpone two

games of a three-game series with the Anaheim Angels. The beam, which weighed about 225 kilograms, fell 30 feet (9 meters) at about 3 P.M. on Monday with such force that it obliterated one seat along the third-base line and left a hole in the concrete below it. Because the stadium was empty, there were no injuries, but the incident prompted a full-scale inspection of the famed sports arena, which will be 75 years old Saturday.

This could have been a terrible tragedy." Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said, surveying the damage Monday.

Hasek Lifts Sabres Over Flyers, 2-1

The Associated Press

dros, the Philadelphia center, returned and threw his weight Buffalo goaltender.

won, 2-1, Monday night in Buffalo.

"He came out hard," said coach, "He was rolling people

NHL ROUNDUP

over. As the game wore on, we got a few licks on him, and we wore him down."

Lindros was a physical playoff berth. presence from the opening ace-off, but in the final period. Buffalo took control, outshooting the Flyers, 12-3.

Hasek, meanwhile, was gave up a first-period powerplay goal to John LeClair but made 30 saves overall.

ence race for home ice in the beat visiting Calgary. first round of the playoffs.

those things will come.' Bruins 3. Hurricanes 2 An-

son Carter had a goal and an After missing 18 games assist as Boston dealt another with a concussion, Eric Lin- blow to visiting Carolina's playoff hopes. While Boston remained one point behind around as usual. But he could Buffalo in the race for fourth not beat Dominik Hasek, the in the East, Carolina dropped five points behind Ottawa in Lindros had four shots but the chase for the eighth and could not score as the Sabres final spot in the conference.

Senators 3, Lightning 2 Chris Phillips scored a tiebreaking power-play goal with Lindy Ruff, the Buffalo 4:03 left as Ottawa closed in on a playoff benth with a victory at Tampa Bay. With a five-point lead over Carolina for the final playoff spot in the East, the Senators need only one victory or a loss by the Hurricanes in the last three games to clinch a

Capitals 2, Islanders 0 Olaf Kolzig, the Washington goaltender, stopped 35 shots for his fifth shurout of the season. and Brian Bellows and Andre near the top of his game. He Nikolishin scored as the Capitals won in New York.

Kings 4, Flames 2 Glen Murray recorded his first Na-The Sabres won it on goals tional Hockey League hat trick by Curtis Brown and Michal with three consecutive goals, Grosek and held on to fourth one shorthanded and two on place in the Eastern Confer- power plays, as Los Angeles

Mighty Ducks 2, Avalanche "I've got to get my timing 2 In Anaheim, Frank Ban-back," Lindros said. "I got to ham's third-period goal lifted get my shot on and start doing the Mighty Ducks to a tie with things at a higher speed. I'm Colorado. The Avalanche feeling real good and I think missed a chance to wrap up their third straight Pacific Di-

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BASEBALL MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS AMERICAN LEAGUE .818. 6 500 7 417 6 400 8 273 NATIONAL LEAGUE Now will have better and 李雷克 法追收证据 化二次数字 40.00 Tur em the Romanistrate

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en Avery (7), Lowe (7), Gordon (9)
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1-1. Sv—Gordon (3). Cother (7) of kland, Stoirs (1). Boston. M. (4), Gomes Batholico (9) and D. Wison; Burba, Mesa (7), M. Jackson (9) and S. Alomar, W.—Burba, 2-1. L.—Cloude, 1-1. Sv.—M. Jackson (6).

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(8), Florie (8) and Casanova: Witt.
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Hawkins, F. Radriguez (4), Swindelf (6), Carrasco (7), Guardado (7), Aguilera (9), Trombley (11) and Steirabach, Ju. Volentin (9); Arroja, Carison (3), R. Talis (7), A. Lopez (7), Mecir (8), R. Hermandez (9), Yan (10) and Flaherly, Diffelice (10). W—Yan, 2-0. L—Trombley, O-1. HRs.—Minnesofu, Lawfon (2), Ontiz (2), T. Walker (1), Coamer (2). Tompo Bay, R. Buffer (3), McGriff (2), Surrento (1), B. Smith (1).

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Marriero; Koerer, S. Keed (7), Toyorez (9) and B. Johnson, W.—Rueter, 2-1. L.—Aybor, 1-2. HRs.—St. Louis, Marriero (1), McGee (1). San Francisco. Bonds (1). Artzana 600 000 000—8 4 0 San Diego 600 918 80x.—1 3 1

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HRs—Seattle, Griffey Jr 2 (6), Segui (5). Guthrie (8), Radinsky (9) and Prince, W— Cleveland, Giles (4). Nama, 1-1, 1 — I may 2-1, 5 — Declarate (4) Cleveland, Giles (4).

Torouth 080 169 600—I 8 0 Nomo. 1-1. L—Lima, 7-1. Sv—Radinsiry (7).

Kansas City 035 000 30x—I1 14 0 Cincheti 000 400 000—4 7 I Colorade 000 100 34x—8 12 0 G. White. Belinda (7). R. Jordan (8).

L. Brower R. Fosano (9). W—Rusch, 1-2.

L.—Hentigen, 1-1. HRs—Kansas City, Mack (1), Sufton (1), Mi.Sweeney (1).

Debtasi G.White. Befinda (7). R. Jordan (8). Sullivan (8) and Taubensee Jm.Wright. Leskanic (8), Dipoto (9) and Manwanng. W—Leskanic 1-1. L—Belinda, 0-1. HR—Colorado. Costilla (4).

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS

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RUNS—Lawton Minnesota. 12 Meores.
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Cleveland. 13: Oraz. Ahnnesota. 12: M.
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Salmon, Angheim, 5; Stevens, Toxos, 5; Segul, Seattle, 5; Canseco, Toranto, 5; Glles, Cleveland, 4; A. Rodriguez, Seattle, 4;

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RBI—Burnitz, Alliwankee. 17: De. Bell.
Houston, 17: Bichette. Colorado, 17:
McGwire, 5t. Louis, 17: Cominiti. San Olego.
15: Burks, Colorado, 15: Gotorrago, Atlanta,

15.
HITS—Bichette Colorado. 30: Lansing.
Colorado, 26: De. Bell, Houston, 21; B. Boone.
Cincinnati. 20: Stynes, Cincinnati. 19; C. h.iones, Atlanta, 19: Cashila, Colorado, 19. DOUBLES—DeBell, Houston, & L. Valker, Colorado, & Bonds, San Francisco, & . Montreal, 7: B. Box

lichette, Colorado, 7; DYaung, Cinchroti, 6: Biggio, Houston, 6.
TRIPLES--Collier, Philipburgh, 3; N. Perez.

Floyd, Florida, S. Ch.Jones, Atlanta, S. J. Svalentin, Milwaystoe, S. H. Rodriguez, Chicago, S. Galarraga, Atlanta, S. STOLEN BASES—Stynes, Cincinnati, S. STOPLEM BARRIS-STYPES, CINCHNOT, 5: ECYGUNG, Los Angeles, 5; McRoe, New York, 5; Rentente, Florida, 4; Womack, Pittsburgh, 4; Vino, Milwoukee, 4; Clayfon, 5), Louis, 4; Baywell, Houston, 4; Biggia, Houston, 4, PITCHING (2) Dericiassi—12 you find with

STRIKEOUTS—Schilling. Philodelphia

STRIKEOUTS—Schilling, Philodelphia, 34; Nomo, Los Angeles, 22; Ashby, San Diego, 21; RMartinez- Las Angeles, 21; MClark, Chicago, 20; Statilemyre, 5t. Louis, 19; K. Brown, San Diego, 19.
SAVES—Beck, Chicago, 5; Loiselle, Pittsburgh, 4; DJonos, Millwaukee, 4; Hoffman, San Diego, 3; Wohlers, Aflanta, 3; Shaw, Cincinnati, 2; 9 are fied with 2.

TUESDAY RESULTS CENTRAL LEAGUE Chunichi 3 Yorniuri 2 Hiroshima 4. Yokahama 3 Hanshin vs. Yakuli rained ov! PACIFIC LEAGUE Doiel 4. Nippen Ham 1

BASKETBALL NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

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45 33 .577 14;
35 43 .449 24;
15 63 .192 44;

L Pcl GB 19 .756 — 26 .671 615 36 .544 1615 39 .506 1915 59 .253 3915 60 .231 41

HOCKEY

Buffalo 1 0 1—2 First Period: P-LeCloir 50 (Svobada) (pp). 2 PHIST PERIOD: PLECTOIT SU (SYODORDI (pp). 2 B-Brown 12 (Smehlik, Holzinger) (sh). Second Period: None. Third Period: B-Grosek 10 (Woolley) Shets on goat: P- 14-14-3—31. B- B-4-12—24. Goalies: P-Heatall. B-Hassek. Baston 2 7 0—3 First Period: B-Heinze 23 (Carter) 2 B., Allison 32 (Axelsson) 3, C-Wesley 6 (O'Neill, Roborts) Second Period: C-Primeou 26 (Sheppard, Wesley) (pp) 5, B-Carter 15 (Heinze) Third Period: None, Shots on godi:

| 17 53 9 43 148 258 | Period: C-Philitips 51Kravchuk, Yoshin) (pp). | Shots on goal: O - 7-11-6-24, T - 4-19-6-29. | Shots on goal: O - 7-11-6-24, T - 4-19-6-29. | Shots on goal: O - 7-11-6-24, T - 4-19-6-29. | Shots on goal: O - 7-11-6-24, T - 4-19-6-29. | Shots on goal: O - 7-11-6-24, T - 4-19-6-29. | Shots on goal: O - 7-11-6-24, T - 4-19-6-29. | Shots on goal: O - 7-11-6-29. | Shots on goal: O - 10-9-10-29. | Shots on goal: O -

Colorado 1 1 0 0--2 American 0 1 1 8--2 First Period: C-Gusarov 4, Second Period: C-Foole 3 (Komersky, Ozolinsh) 3. A-Severyn 1 (Pushor) Third Period: A-Bonhom 7 (Pushor, Cullen) Overlime: None, Shots on goal: C-5-8-10-2—25. A-14-8-C-3—31. Goalies: C-Roy, A-

CRICKET AUSTRALIA VS. (MDIA

India: 227 at out (49.3 overs)

SOCCER **UEFA CUP**

Semifinal, Second Leg SPANISH FIRST DIVISION

TRANSITIONS

Baseball AMERICAN LEAGUE KANSAS CITY—Assigned INF Joe Vittello to schedded spring trothing. SEATTLE—Fired Nardi Contreros, pitching Put OF Joy Buhner on 15-day disa retroactive to April 7. Recaked OF Ryan Rad-manovich from Tocoma, PCL. TEXAS—Sent RHP Danny Patterson to Oklohoma, PCL, and RHP Xavier Hernandez

DENNIS THE MENACE



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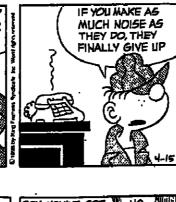


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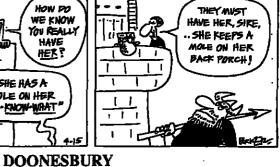




THEIR TERRITORIES WITH



I THOUGHT WE'D BE ROMPING AROUND THE WOODS LIKE WE ON OPPOSITE SUDES OF A ALWAYS DO, BUT IT TURNS OUT TIGERS DON'T SHARE



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SALLY NOVARR, ONE OF THE COUNT-LESS YOUNG PALLA REPORTERS AN OSE LINES HAVE BEEN TURNED LIPSTES

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AS FAR BACK AS JOURNAL-ISM SCHOOL, I KNEW THAT ONE SET TO COME THE PAULA

I WANTED TO BE READY -READY TO REPORT TO THE NATION ABOUT THE SEARCH TO PIND THE TRUTTH ABOUT

Just Small Actors

By Russell Baker

EW YORK — We of the Media are desperate for Probably more American know what. Boy, don't we all of Russia. But for a few newsknow what!

If we abandon the story, dear mass audience, what have we left to serve you? In all Congress there is not a single star, not one person the ratings.) The tabloids whose name is known to any couldn't care less. ("Where's but game-show contestants the sex angle?") To put it boning up for "Jeopardy."

known. I include the House competition that is said to unspeaker. Newt Gingrich. A derpin our greatness. year or two ago he approached Clinton in star magnitude. Today, like Bernarr Macfadden and Jack La-Lanne, he is grist for those Competition means pursuing where-are-they-now pieces in the biggest possible audience. which newspapers remind us who's dead and who's not.

Washington once abounded in what the press calls readily suffer long-winded was the great gushing Senate star, Everett Dirksen, "the wizard of ooze," as Time magazine called him.

Kennedys, Hubert Humphrey, Gene McCarthy and, for color, Olin (Olin the Solon) Johnson and William (Wild Bill) rich variety of TV entertain-Langer constantly chewing on cellophane-wrapped cigars. It glittered with star power.

Look at Congress now: hordes seemingly groomed, cause it is not entertainment. dressed and color-coordinated by the same television makeup cosmetician, and not a star on the landscape.

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Washington is filled with monopolies, the asphalting of serious people engaged in serious business, some of it tainment is this rich, who can alarmingly serious. Right now, be bothered with such dreariwhile the media fret about the nesses? We'll scream later. president's character, Senate

and president are quietly colluding in a dangerous and costly expansion of NATO.

Probably more Americans stars. That's why the nation know who Linda Tripp is than and President Bill Clinton can which three countries will exexpect no relief from you tend NATO up to the borders

papers, the media don't dare

bore us with stories like that.

TV can't risk it. (Death to another way, it's competition Among the Capitol un- that keeps us dumb, that very

> Competition means there isn't time to introduce minor characters unless they garnish tales of the star's adventures. which means catering to the lowest common denominator.

The mass audience doesn't 'colorful characters.' There dawdling over NATO or stories about who's sabotaging the latest health-care plan. We want stars, not details. agazine called him. This probably explains why
The Senate also had three the networks' Washington coverage concentrates so in-

tensely on the White House. ment themes: the family sitcom. soap opera, eye-popping spectacle, tales of intrigue and foul play. Government, a nuts-and-bolts business, goes unreported be-

So, who cares what's happening about taxes, all those corporate mergers. Social Security reform, health care.

New York Times Service

A Hillbilly on a Comeback With a Geezer Pass

By Mike Zwerin

NEW YORK — Bob Dorough is the only 74-year-old hillbilly singer, composer and piano player with a ponytail and a new seven-album record deal. And how many of them would you say have worked with Lenny Bruce, Miles Davis and Sugar Ray Robinson?

In more recent years, he and his buddy the bassist Bill Takas have been flying around the United States on senior citizen tariffs they call "geezer passes."

They enjoy working together as a duo and, frankly, they could not afford a drummer. This did not bother Dorough all that much because, as that other hillbilly jazzman Chet Baker once said: "It takes a very good drummer to be better than no drummer at all." In any case, such economy will not be necessary much

longer.

His new album, the first of the seven, "Right on My Way Home." has just been released by Blue Note. Schoolhouse Rock, his educational production dating back to the '70s, is a newly packaged 4-CD box on Rhino

The kids who once loved his voice singing "My Hero Zero" over animated cartoons on Saturday morning television are now in their 30s happily paying music charges in the jazz clubs Dorough appears in. They elbow each other with nostalgia.

A club called Birdland in the theater district on West 44th Street was packed two nights running late last month when Dorough made one of his rare New York City appearances. (Notable names dropped in, including the filmmaker Robert Altman, the artist Al Hirschfeld and the actor Gary Goodrow.) Dorough had worked regularly at the Village Gate and Bradleys, but they

He likes to "harbor stray animals" on his farm in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains, a 90 minute drive from the city. The area reminds him of the hills, rivers and creeks near his home town of Cherry Hill, Arkansas. He had been 'scoring heavy advertising bread' recording jingles like Sing a Can of Beer," so he bought it.

With nothing urgent to go for in New York, it was perhaps a bit too easy to get into the habit of lying back with the philosophy expressed in a song he wrote with Fran Landesman: "I've Got a Small Day Tomorrow (and there's a car I can borrow),

His voice has been compared to "Nat King Cole doing a Louis Armstrong impersonation.

Dorough somehow manages to wear his heart on his sleeve. laugh, wink, keep his tongue in his cheek, sing and finger two-handed beloop piano at the same time. 'In the old days,' he says, with his old-days Arkansas Traveler twang: "I was a beloop student trying to learn 'Halt Nelson' like evervone else.

He ran jam sessions with people from Detroit, including Thad and Elvin Jones, in his East 75th Street four-flight



Bob Dorough has finally escaped from his "evil days."

Financially, Dorough had fallen on what he calls "evil days." He was working Henry Le Tang's Times Square tap dance studio for \$3 a class. One day, Le Tang said "I've got

Le Tang introduced him to the boxer Sugar Ray Robinson. who had retired and was building a song and dance act. Tap dancers are like drummers with legs and Dorough liked playing with them. When Le Tang said "play 'Green Eyes'

for Sugar Ray." he knew exactly what to do.

Afterward, wiping his brow, Robinson said: "You're going on the road with us."

Dorough "took it as a command." They traveled with Robinson's hairdresser, valet and road manager, playing theaters in Detroit, Washington. Philadelphia and the Apollo in Harlem on the same bill with attractions like The Dom-

'I toured our continent on Count Basie's bus, hung out in Louis Armstrong's dressing room, I met 'Fatha' Hines in

Wearing a smile that somehow combined lechery with childlike enthusiasm, Dorough recalled: "Oh, all those

beautiful dancing girls. It was wonderful." Robinson took his revue, billed as "The Champ," to Paris with Dorough as musical director. They sailed over first class (doing their act en route) on the Ile de France. But they bombed in Paris ("Larry Adler stole the show"), and when Robinson and his retinue sailed back (second class), Dorough stayed in Paris to work at the Mars Club for the French franc equivalent of \$11.65 a night. It went a long way in Paris in the '50s. He sighed: "I was in pig

Lenny Bruce was "a jazz lover but an autocrat too" and Dorough soon decided to stop spending "A Sick Evening With Lenny Bruce."

After hearing his vocalese adaptation of Charlie Park-er's "Yardbird Suite," Miles Davis called "out of the blue" and said: "I want you to write a Christmas song for me." Dorough took that as a command also. He wrote the anti-Yuletide lament "Blue Xmas," which Miles"

One thing sure - he was taking orders from some

Little Brother Montgomery taught a young while singer named Elaine (Spanky) McFarland about the Financially, Dorough had fallen

on what he calls "evil days." He was working Henry Le Tang's Times Square tap dance studio for \$3 a class.

blues and she started the group Spanky and Our Gane Dorough producing. Their "Sunday Will Never Be the Same' was a hit.

With simultaneous advertising and rock hits came a commission to set the multiplication tables to a back-beat. An agency account executive he knew came up with the concept. 'My little boy can't memorize the multiplication tables,' he explained: 'But he sings along with Jimi-Hendrix and the Rolling Stones.'

Dorough had taken an elective called "The New Math" at Columbia University - he knew about the commutative law and he liked the Stones too and he soon realized that he knew more about rock than the account executive.

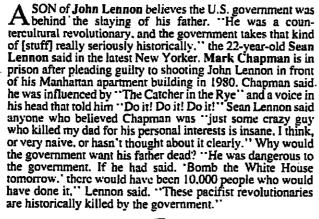
It led to the successful body of work called "Muttiplication Rock" including "Little Twelve Toes" ("If man had been born with six fingers on each hand, he'd also have 12 toes, or so the theory goes").

The premise was expanded to "Schoolhouse Rock." including grammar, America (history and civics) and science — Dorough producing. Dave Frishberg wrote a song in the American history department that began: "I'm just a bill, yes I'm only a bill, and I'm sitting up here on Capitol."

A folky grammar song by Lynn Ahrens explained: "A noun is a person, place or thing." And Dorough sang his "real rocky" science number called "Electricity."

Breaking news: Bob Dorough has been inducted into the Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame.





The estate of the Washington Redskins owner Jack Kent Cooke has agreed to pay his widow \$20 million to settle her challenge to his will, avoiding a trial that would have revealed embarrassing details about the couple's relationship, sources familiar with the agreement said. The settlement, which has not been ratified in court, provides Marlene Ramallo Cooke with financial security after she was left with nothing in the will that her husband wrote 13 weeks before he died last year.

estate, estimated at \$500 million to \$825 million, will go to a charitable trust, as Jack Kent Cooke had instructed.

Bruce Willis and Demi Moore won a round in the battle with their former nanny, when a federal judge in Los Angeles threw out a suit filed by Kim Tannahill, who claimed the stars owed her overtime pay for dragging her on trips around the world. Tannahill cared for the actors' three daughters for more than three years. She accused the couple of labor violations, claiming that she was required to go on long trips without receiving additional pay. She also has a case pending in Los Angeles County Superior Court.

Chance to Belt It Out in London

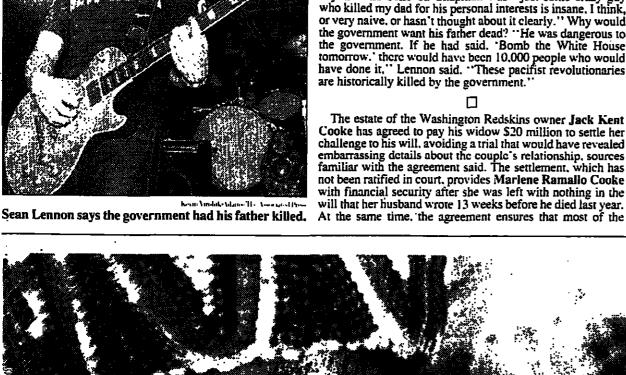
New York Times Service

LONDON - Ever yearn to sing with the Royal Opera? On Sunday that yearning will be easily fulfilled. The invitation to sing at Barbican Hall has been extended to all comers. 'from the pitch-perfect to the self-avowedly tone-deaf.' Priced at about \$33, some 2,000 tickets to 'Sing With the Royal Opera" are being sold for a day of rehearsals led by Terry Edwards, director of the Royal Opera Chorus, followed by a concert alongside soloists of the chorus and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House.

Snubbed by the Oscars, Leonardo DiCaprio had no trouble finding fans among MTV viewers. The "Titanic" star was nominated for an MTV Movie Award for best male performance. Samuel L. Jackson will be host of the music network's movie awards show, which will be broadcast June 4. DiCaprio was also nominated with co-star Kate Winslet for best screen duo and for best kiss.

Vaudeville was all the rage when Doris Travis lied about her age to join the Ziegfeld Follies. Now 94, she's pulled our her tap shoes for a return engagement. 'I dance the same as I did 79 years ago,' Travis said. 'Maybe not with the same spring in my foot, but my style hasn't changed. I haven't tried any of these new jazz or rock moves!' She headed to New jazz or rock moves! York this week to join five other former Ziegfeld girls for an AIDS benefit at the New Amsterdam Theatre. She was just 14 when she lied about her age to join the Follies.

After ending her 10-season run as a hard-boiled journalist on "Murphy Brown," Candice Bergen did something unlike her character - she sobbed uncontrollably. She said she had been fine up until the day they taped the last show, "and then it hit - I burst into tears in front of George Clooner. Clooney was making a guest appearance on the final episode of the CBS show. "I just had to walk away." she said. "But we're fine now. We had a great time, a great ride."





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